

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

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back with more,
more, more**
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TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2005

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'Re-humanizing' the fallen

**Exhibit uses painted portraits to capture the souls of
U.S. forces killed in Iraq, Afghanistan**

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LISA BURGESS/Stars and Stripes

Annette Polan shows the portrait she painted of Spc. Brandon Tobler, 19, of Portland, Ore., who was killed March 22, 2003, when his Humvee crashed during a blinding sandstorm while his unit was moving from Kuwait to Baghdad. Polan said she calls Tobler "my baby ... a young prince." Tobler's portrait and the portraits of 1,326 other troops killed in Iraq and Afghanistan are part of the "Faces of the Fallen" exhibit.



Army Spc. Rasheed Sahib



Navy Lt. Thomas M. Adams



Army Pfc. Melissa J. Hobart

Photos courtesy of "Faces of the Fallen"

Germany unit's war deployment pushed up

69th TSC is leaving two days early for Afghanistan mission

By STEVE MRAZ
Stars and Stripes

MANNEHEIM, Germany — Troops with the 69th Transportation Company thought they were leaving for their yearlong Afghanistan deployment on Wednesday.

Accordingly, the 80 soldiers planned to spend Monday and Tuesday lounging with their loved ones and taking care of last-minute details.

So when word came down around 1 a.m. Sunday that the unit would be deploying Monday afternoon, everyone started working double time.

Young troops rushed to get haircuts. Others hurried to complete power-of-attorney documents. Family members scrambled to make farewell posters that they had originally planned to craft tomorrow evening, said Kim-Berly Kinnischitzke, family readiness group leader for the company.

"The initial shock affected some of the families," she said. "It really pushed us as far as the schedule."

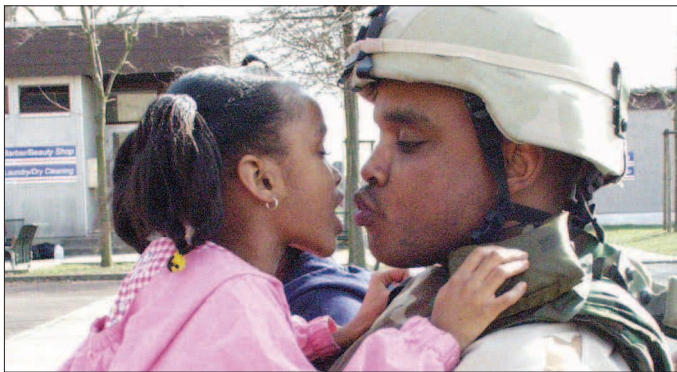
For Spc. Charles Danner, the Sunday baptism of his 8-day-old daughter still took place in Schoenau, Germany, but under added pressure.

"It was rush, rush," Danner said. "You work with what you got, I guess."

1st Sgt. Bryan Elder said he did not know why the unit's deployment date was moved forward. The unit, which falls under the 21st Theater Support Command, will be assigned to transport infantry within Afghanistan during its tour.

By July, the 21st TSC will have deployed about 1,100 troops to Afghanistan for its joint logistics command mission.

Aptly nicknamed the "Roadrunners," the 69th could be faced with overcoming



PHOTOS BY STEVE MRAZ/Stars and Stripes

Above: Spc. Jamaal Simmons with the 69th Transportation Company kisses his 6-year-old daughter, Daijsha, goodbye on Monday. Simmons and about 80 others from his unit deployed Monday for a yearlong Afghanistan tour. Below: Soldiers await their deployment inside the Coleman Barracks Gymnasium in Mannheim, Germany.

roadside bombs and vehicle ambushes in Afghanistan. Three months of training in Grafenwohr prepared the troops for their mission, Elder said.

"I feel confident in my unit," he said. "My main thing will be to tell the soldiers to take it one day at a time, one mission at a time."

Pfc. Daryl Raymond already has one mission in his mind he is confident he will accomplish. "I'm going to catch (Osama) bin Laden," the 21-year-old soldier said.

Raymond wants to get back to Germany in time to see the birth of his first child, due in October.

"I figure once I catch bin Laden, they'll let us come home faster," he said.

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Extended 'invisible deployments' challenge Benelux

By KEVIN DOUGHERTY
Stars and Stripes

CHIEFVRES, Belgium — There was a time not too long ago when a soldier assigned to the Benelux was largely insulated from an extended deployment.

A tour of duty in this neck of the woods usually meant a lot of desk time. Duffel bags tended to get more dusty than dirty.

That's no longer the case.

"It isn't like it was in the old days of the Cold War, when they sat at their desks," said Army Col. Dean A. Nowowiejski, the 80th Area Support Group commander.

"It's not your granddaddy's NATO anymore," Nowowiejski added.

While they get scant attention, troops in the Benelux are going to Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere at a rate roughly proportionate to troops from many of the larger bases, he said. And when they depart their duty station to deploy, troops usually travel alone or in

small groups, without rousing speeches or falling confetti.

"I call them the invisible deployments," Nowowiejski said.

Last year, in response to the increase in travel, the 80th ASG and the 254th Base Support Battalion beefed up its Army Community Service staff.

Based in Schinnen, Netherlands, the support battalion hired a full-time deployment and mobilization program coordinator, began to reach out more to geographically separated units and bought more gear, such as Web cams, to bridge the distance between troops and families.

And like many of the larger bases in Germany and Italy, Schinnen now has professional counselors to assist servicemembers and their families.

"These guys and gals (in the military) need advocates, and that's what we are trying to do," said Katrina Yunt, the deployment program coordinator.

Ultimately, the 80th ASG and

254th BSB exist to support U.S. forces assigned to NATO, Nowowiejski said.

While only several hundred U.S. servicemembers are assigned to the Benelux region, more than 100 are currently deployed. They range from cargo transportation specialists in Rotterdam, Netherlands, to veterinarians and firefighters in Chieffres. In addition, an element of NATO's Allied Rapid Reaction Corps, based in Rheindahlen, Germany, is expected to go down-range soon, if it hasn't left already.

Since troops in the Benelux have no large housing area to speak of, most of them rent apartments on the local economy. That requires a degree of independence that can be liberating but also challenging for folks like Yunt because troops deploy alone or in small groups with little fanfare.

"We have to be in tune with the units," said Lt. Col. Richard S. Ri-

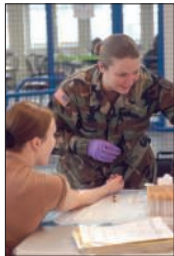
chardson, the 254th BSB commander. "The benefit is we can provide service on a more personal level."

But as much as officials try, they don't always know who is coming and going. Nowowiejski, for example, said he didn't learn Air Force firefighters had deployed to the Middle East until he heard it from someone at church. Though the personnel are not Army, Nowowiejski wants to be inclusive, given the nature of NATO.

To that end, the 80th ASG recently conducted a weeklong pre-deployment processing program specifically for U.S. troops assigned to NATO. The joint program went off without a hitch and drew members from each of the armed services.

"If I had to do this on my own," Navy Cmdr. Mark P. Businger said, "it would probably take me the better part of two or three days."

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KEVIN DOUGHERTY/Stars and Stripes

Army Sgt. Lindsay Bjelle, left, received a shot from Spc. Erin Grant while updating her records at a weeklong predeployment processing session for U.S. servicemembers, especially those assigned to NATO.

Frist tries to end ban on DOD Scout support

BY KIMBERLY MORRISON

Knight Ridder Tribune

WASHINGTON — Some former Boy Scouts in Congress last week fought back against a lawsuit settlement that had forced federal agencies to stop sponsoring Scout troops because their members must pledge to do their duty to God.

The settlement, reached with the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois in November, restricted the Scouts' use of the Defense Department's military facilities

and barred military personnel from helping with scouting activities while on the government clock.

Still up in the air because parts of the ACLU's suit are still pending is whether the military can continue to spend \$2 million annually to provide support services to scouting events such as jamborees. They're often held on military property and include the military's provision of tents, latrines, water and other utilities.

Tennessee Eagle Scout Bill Frist, the Senate majority leader, on Wednesday intro-

duced the Save Our Scouts Act of 2005, which would overturn the ACLU settlement, restore the government's support and guarantee that it isn't cut in the future.

Roughly 40 U.S. senators are scouting alumni, according to Frist's office, as are 150 members of the House of Representatives, where a measure identical to Frist's is pending. Nationwide, 3.2 million youths and 1.2 million adults participate in scouting.

ACLU senior lobbyist Terri Schroeder declined to comment on Frist's bill be-

cause ACLU lawyers haven't determined what effects, if any, it would have on the case.

"It doesn't matter to people like Senator Frist if (the Boy Scouts of America) is or isn't a discriminatory group, but it does matter to us," said Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State in Washington.

"When they start to get official sanction by the Army, an official branch of the U.S. government, then it's not OK that they discriminate in this fashion" against youths who don't believe in God, Lynn said.

Liberty Intermediate pupils prepare to send supplies to Kyrgyzstan counterparts



Left: Elizabeth McNamara addresses a box of donated items Monday at Liberty Intermediate School at RAF Lakenheath, England. She and other pupils in Frank McNamara's fifth-grade social studies class spearheaded a collection drive for two weeks gathering clothes, stuffed animals and school supplies. The class will send 30 to 40 boxes of items to Dr. (Maj.) Joy Anne Rodriguez, who is deployed with the 48th Medical Group in Kyrgyzstan. The doctor will donate the items to an orphanage near the base. The collection drive will continue through May, when Rodriguez returns to England.

Right: Haley Haydon, left, and Estevan Espinosa pack clothes.

Below: Breanna Hertz, left, and Anna Roxstrom box up stuffed animals.



PHOTOS BY RON JENSEN/Stars and Stripes



GI gets prison for molestation

A 66th Military Intelligence Brigade soldier was given three years' confinement after admitting to child molestation charges at a court-martial Thursday in Darmstadt, Germany.

Spc. Ethan Stone pleaded guilty to at-

tempted sodomy with a child under the age of 12, indecent acts with a female under 16, and violation of a command order.

Stone, who is assigned to Company A, 105th MI Battalion, was also reduced to the lowest enlisted rank and will be dishonorably discharged.

Kitzingen remembers soldier

KITZINGEN, Germany — Members of the Kitzingen Army community will gather at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Harvey Baracks chapel to remember a soldier killed in action in Afghanistan.

Staff Sgt. Shane Koele, 25, of the 212th

Military Police Company, died March 16 of injuries he sustained a day earlier when his armored Humvee hit a land mine near Shindand. His unit was only one week into a yearlong tour in Afghanistan.

Koele, of Hartley, Iowa, also served six months in Iraq in 2003.

From staff reports

U.S. troops kill 26 militants outside Baghdad

Unusually large number of rebels attacked convoy

BY EDWARD HARRIS

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — U.S. troops killed 26 militants in a clash Sunday — the highest, single-incident insurgent death toll reported in four months, the U.S. military said.

Late Sunday, an American convoy was attacked with gunfire and rocket-propelled grenades, sparking the clash that killed 26 militants.

Between 40 and 50 militants opened fire on military police and artillery units from the Kentucky National Guard as the Americans traveled along a road 20 miles

southeast of Baghdad that has seen a recent increase in violence.

Six soldiers and seven militants were wounded, and one person was arrested. It was one of the largest battles since the Jan. 30 election.

In December, coalition forces killed 25 insurgents who launched a coordinated attack on a U.S. checkpoint. The insurgents detonated a truck bomb and attacked in groups of 10 to 12 before the Americans called in airstrikes by F-18 and F-16 fighter jets.

The higher death toll Sunday was attributed to the unusually large number of attackers, who often travel in smaller bands or employ hidden explosives.

After Sunday's attack, troops recovered six RPG launchers, 16 rockets, 13 machine guns, 22 assault weapons, more than 2,900 rounds of ammunition, and 40 hand grenades from their attackers.

Insurgent attacks across Iraq on Monday left seven civilians and three Iraqi soldiers dead.

In the deadliest attack Monday on civilians, a roadside bomb killed four women and three children in Aziziyah, 35 miles southeast of Baghdad, police Capt. Fahal al-Muhammadi said.

An Iraqi soldier was killed in Sherqat, 160 miles north of Baghdad, when a mortar shell landed on his camp. Another soldier died and four others were wounded when an Iraqi army vehicle was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade in western Baghdad, a Defense Ministry official said.

In Baghdad's Amiriyah neighborhood, gunmen in two speeding cars fired on an Iraqi army foot patrol, killing another soldier and wounding a third, police Capt. Talib Tamir said.

Nearby, the head of the Kazimiyah neighborhood police force, Col. Mowayad Farhan, escaped unhurt when gunmen opened fire on his car, police said. His driver, however, was seriously injured and hospitalized.

In Samarra, an explosives-laden pickup truck driven



Iraqi police gather at the scene Monday after gunmen opened fire on a police vehicle in the Kazimiyah section of Baghdad. Col. Mowayad Farhan, the head of the Kazimiyah neighborhood police force, escaped unhurt, but his driver was seriously injured.

by a suicide bomber went off prematurely near a hospital, wounding about a dozen civilians and damaging homes, police 1st Lt. Qassem Mohammed said.

Police also said the director of the Iraqi army's legal department in northern Kirkuk, Lt. Col. Hawas al-Bayati, was shot and critically injured late Sunday outside his home. Further south, troops killed two suspected terrorists and detained two others after they discovered the men digging holes along the road for hiding homemade bombs.

The U.S. military reported the death of a soldier, who was killed Sunday during action in restive Anbar province, which contains the flashpoint cities of Fallujah and Ramadi.

It also said 10 men captured by Iraqi soldiers last week had confessed to staging a March 9 Baghdad car-bomb attack near the Agricultural Ministry and a hotel favored by Westerners. At least four people, including the attackers and a guard, were killed.

The Iraqi troops who carried out the March 18 raid seized two vehicles being rigged for detonation as well as four rockets and launchers, light weaponry, blank Iraqi passports and thousands of dollars in cash, the military said.

Monday's violence came as Iraq and neighboring Jordan engaged in a diplomatic spat, with each withdrawing a high-level representative in a growing dispute over Shiite Muslim claims that Jordan is failing to block militants from entering Iraq.

Sunday's diplomatic row erupted even as a Jordanian court sentenced in absentia Iraq's most-feared terrorist — a Jordan native — to a 15-year prison term.

As news emerged of the largely symbolic sentencing of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who is at large, his al-Qaida in Iraq organization claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing that killed a top anti-corruption official in the northern city of Mosul. Al-Zarqawi already has been sentenced to death twice by Jordan.

Sunday's events capped a week of rising tensions that included a protest in which Shiite demonstrators raised the Iraqi flag over the Jordanian Embassy in Baghdad amid claims by the Shiite clergy-backed United Iraqi Alliance that Jordan was allowing terrorists to slip into Iraq. The Iraqi banner continued to flutter above the embassy Monday.

"Iraqis are feeling very bitter over what happened. We decided, as the Iraqi government, to recall the Iraqi ambassador from Amman to discuss this," Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari told The Associated Press.

Jordan acted first, when Foreign Minister Hani al-Mulqi announced his charge d'affaires in Baghdad had been recalled to Amman.

"We are hoping that the Iraqi police will devise a plan to protect the embassy," al-Mulqi said. "Meanwhile, we have asked the charge d'affaires to come back because he was living in the embassy."

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Sunday at least 1,520 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,158 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department.

The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is seven higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. Friday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths. Italy has reported 21 deaths; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, eight; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each. Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia have reported one death each.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

- A soldier was killed Sunday when an explosive detonated near Kirkuk, Iraq.

- The latest identifications reported by the military:

- No identifications reported.

SEAL's court-martial set in alleged prisoner abuse

BY SETH HETTNER

The Associated Press

NAN DIEGO — In November 2003, Navy SEALs went after Iraqi Manadel al-Jamadi, a suspect in the bombing of Red Cross offices in Iraq that killed 12. The CIA apparently believed he knew the location of a pile of explosives.

On the night of Nov. 4, the SEALs burst into al-Jamadi's apartment outside Baghdad, subdued him after a struggle and whisked him back to their base. En route, the SEALs allegedly kicked and punched al-Jamadi and struck him with their rifles.

Lieutenant to remain unidentified during proceedings

They also posed for photos with the hooded and handcuffed prisoner.

The SEALs turned al-Jamadi over to the CIA. A few hours later, he was dead.

Court-martial proceedings were set to begin Monday for an unidentified SEAL lieutenant accused of punching the detainee in the arm and allowing his men to abuse the prisoner. The lieutenant faces charges of assault, dereliction of duty and conduct unbecoming an officer.

The Navy is taking extraordinary precautions to protect the identity of its terro-

ist-hunting SEALs, members of an elite force named for Sea, Air, Land. The lieutenant will be referred to only by the first letter of his last name, as will all SEAL personnel in the courtroom — a step experts on military law say is virtually unprecedented.

The SEALs acted as the CIA's warrant squad on dangerous "capture or kill" missions in Iraq, bursting into homes in the middle of the night and carting off suspects.

Documents obtained by The Associated

Press suggest that CIA personnel — not the SEALs — may be to blame for the prisoner's death. When he died at Abu Ghraib prison, al-Jamadi was suspended by the wrists, which were handcuffed behind his back — a position that has been condemned by human rights groups as torture, according to investigative files from the Army and the CIA's Office of Inspector General.

Nine SEALs and one sailor have been accused of abusing al-Jamadi and others. All but one of the cases has been handled in closed-door proceedings. Earlier this month, another lieutenant received a career-killing punitive letter of reprimand.

The souls, the lives behind the numbers

Artists connect to U.S. troops killed in combat with portraits

BY LISA BURGESS

Stars and Stripes

Spc. Brandon Tobler, an Army reservist from Portland, Ore., grew up with one mom.

But now that Tobler's life has ended — cut short at age 19 in a vehicle crash during a blinding sandstorm in Iraq on March 22, 2003 — the young soldier has two moms: his birth mother, and Washington portrait artist Annette Polan.

Now Tobler "is my baby, too," Polan said March 15, as she ran her fingers gently over the surface of the 6-inch-by-8-inch portrait she created for the new "Faces of the Fallen" project.

Polan traced a finger over the portrait's full lips.

"His mouth is so alive for me," she murmured. "I see it and think, 'I hope he had a girlfriend. I hope he had his first kiss.'"

The power of art to spark emotions in that manner — emotions a photograph may leave untouched — is what Polan and more than 150 volunteer artists are hoping to evoke with "Faces of the Fallen," an exhibition of 1,327 individual portraits of servicemembers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The exhibit, which opens to the public March 23 at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery and runs through Labor Day, Sept. 5, includes portraits or silhouettes of every servicemember killed while deployed as part of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom through Nov. 11, 2004.

Polan, a renowned portrait artist and professor of art at the Corcoran College of Art and Design in Washington, got her idea for the exhibit after her 81-year-old mother died in January 2004.

"I spent most of the winter," trying to deal with the grief, Polan said.

And at some point during that mourning process, Polan saw the periodic Washington Post feature "Faces of the Fallen."

The Post publishes the photos of as many servicemembers as possible that have died in Iraq or Afghanistan in a gallery format. Looking at the latest Post installment, "I had a 'eureka' moment," Polan said.

She envisioned a space dedicated not to photographs, but to portraits, which she believes are ultimately more revealing.

Retired Brig. Gen. Wilma Vaughn, the Women's Memorial Foundation president and a friend of Polan, was an early supporter.

Vaughn acted as a liaison with the Defense Department, as well as offering the memorial as the exhibit space.



Army Sgt. Yihyeh L. Chen



Army Sgt. Keelan Moss



Army Pfc. Marlin T. Rockhold



Army Pfc. James Lambert

Some
of the
faces
of the
fallen

Photos courtesy of "Faces of the Fallen"



Marine Pfc. Juan Garza

Before the project got under way, the different military services mailed letters to each family whose portrait was scheduled to be part of the exhibit, giving them the opportunity not to participate if they so chose.

They were also informed that once the exhibit is done touring, each honored servicemember's family would be given the portrait.

Not a single family declined, Polan said.

If the initial display proves popular enough, and enough donations come their way, the nonprofit "Faces" board of directors hope to put the exhibit on a national tour, Polan said.

Each painting is mounted on a specially designed gray holder on a pole — a format inspired by a photograph of a graveyard in Qom, Iraq, where each person's grave is marked by a photo of the deceased, Polan said.

The intent of the portraits, however, is not to remind viewers of death, but to celebrate lives that are normally noted only in ever-growing statistics, said Dennis O'Neil, an expert in print-making who provided 200 hand-screened silhouettes for the exhibit that are "place holders" for servicemembers whose photos were not available, or whose



assigned artists have not completed their assignments.

"When one artist deals with one soul, you're re-humanizing the fact that these people lost their lives," said O'Neil, who in addition to working as an artist is also a professor of art at the Corcoran.

Whether dealing in paint, wood, fabric or any other allowable medium, each "Faces" artist had "to stretch himself to find something about that person,



PHOTOS BY LISA BURGESS/Stars and Stripes

Left: Washington artist Paula Wachstock, left, and Rhoda Baer, a photographer and artist, install the first portraits for the "Faces of the Fallen" exhibit at Arlington National Cemetery. The exhibit opens March 23 and runs through Sept. 5. Above: Artist Annette Polan discusses the display — 1,327 individual portraits of servicemembers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

somehow capture a piece of their humanity," O'Neil said.

Before the exhibit opens to the public, there will be a special reception and viewing for the families of the servicemembers. Polan said that 1,800 family members have indicated that they will attend, including a family traveling from India for the event, and a military widow who is coming from Australia.

For all the viewers of "Faces of the Fallen," Polan said, "what I re-

ally hope [the exhibit] ultimately has is the quality of healing."

"We as a country are going through a very divisive time," Polan said.

"But we can all agree as Americans that the troops who sacrificed their lives, deserve to be honored and remembered."

To see a slide show of many of the completed portraits, and to learn more about Faces of the Fallen, go to: www.facesofthefallen.org
E-mail: Lisa.Burgess@starsandstripes.mil

Photos from the Front

Presented by Stars and Stripes Advertising & AIG Europe



ABOVE KBR contractor Michael Hoy of Houston sits in front of a blaze in Iraq. According to an Army officer who works with Hoy, the contractor has been downrange for seven months providing support to the U.S. armed forces.

U.S. Army

BELOW Recruits wait in line to receive their equipment just before beginning basic training in the Afghan National Army at the Kabul Military Training Center. Last month (Feb.) marked the graduation of the 20,000th soldier to train at the center, less than three years after the program started.

U.S. Army



TOP RIGHT Spc. Chad Davis, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment pulls perimeter security on a patrol near the village of Omnia in a remote area of Afghanistan.

Sgt. Frank Magni/U.S. Army

RIGHT Dr. (Lt. Col.) John Smyrski, Joint Task Force Wings flight surgeon, evaluates a patient during a cooperative medical assistance mission in Jidalek village. Smyrski was selected as the 2004 Flight Surgeon of the Year by the Army Aviation Association of America for his contributions to the task force during Operation Enduring Freedom.

U.S. Army



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IN THE WORLD

Embattled Annan urges U.N. to adopt reforms

BY EDITH M. LEDERER

The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged world leaders Monday to implement the boldest changes to the United Nations in its 60-year history by expanding the size of the Security Council, writing a new definition of terrorism and strengthening protections for human rights.

In a speech to the 191-member U.N. General Assembly, Annan called for adopting his entire reform package at a summit of world leaders in September, and he warned countries against treating the list of proposals "as an à la carte menu, and select only those that you especially fancy."

But getting leaders to agree on the package will not be easy because many countries have opposing views on issues ranging from reform of the powerful Security Council to creation of a new Human

Rights Council to increasing development assistance to poor countries.

The timing of Annan's appeal also raised some questions, coming just before former U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker releases the results of an investigation into the activities of Annan and his son, Kojo, in relation to the scandal-ridden U.N. oil-for-food program in Iraq. Kojo Annan worked in Africa for a company that had an oil-for-food contract.

Asked at a news conference how he believed the United States would respond to the report, Annan said he hoped all countries would find his suggestions in their interests.

"I think there are many things in the report that should please many states including the United States," he told reporters. "You have to understand that we have 191 member states and I was dealing with the problems of all regions."

Rice hints at possible North Korea sanctions

BY ANNE GEARAN

The Associated Press

BEIJING — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice hinted Monday that North Korea faces possible international sanctions if it flouts a diplomatic effort to halt its nuclear weapons program.

Rice also delivered subtle rebukes to China for raising the stakes in the perennial standoff with Taiwan and for the communist country's limitations on religious freedom.

"I made that point ... and I do hope that there is an understanding that religious communities are not a threat to transitioning societies," Rice said at a news conference. "In fact, they are very often in societies that are changing a force for good, for stability and for compassion."

North Korea on Monday denounced U.S. criticism of China's rising military power as interfer-

ence in another country's internal affairs.

North Korea said its people "fully support" China's move as a way of promoting "peaceful reunification of the country."

"Its adoption is an entirely just step," the North's official Rodong Simun daily wrote in a commentary carried by the state-run Korean Central News Agency. "Therefore, no one is entitled to take exception to it."

China is a key ally of North Korea, but has also been working closely with the United States in efforts to bring the North back to the nuclear disarmament talks. The talks, aimed at persuading the North to give up its nuclear ambitions, also involve South Korea, Japan and Russia.

"The open interference of the U.S. in the domestic issue of China is an expression of its hegemonism and arrogance," the commentary said.

Kyrgyzstan's president orders election probe



AP
Opposition protesters in traditional Kyrgyz hats rally Monday in Osh, Kyrgyzstan, where thousands of opposition activists stormed three government buildings in the latest in a wave of protests to demand President Askar Akayev's resignation. Akayev on Monday ordered a probe into alleged election violations as more than 17,000 protesters pressed their demands he step down. Akayev ordered the Central Election Commission and the Supreme Court to investigate the alleged election wrongdoing, his office said in a statement. Protests against Akayev, who has led this mainly Muslim nation for 15 years, began after parliamentary elections on Feb. 27, and intensified after subsequent run-offs, which the opposition, Europe and the United States said were seriously flawed, a charge denied by the government. There was no immediate reaction to the announcement of the election probe from the leaders of the demonstrations.

Eight admit to planning attacks in Yemen

The Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — Eight suspected al-Qaida members, including an Iraqi with Swiss nationality, admitted in court Monday to planning attacks on Western embassies here, while six convicted terrorists were sentenced to two years in jail in another case.

The trials were the latest in a series of Yemeni cases involving the

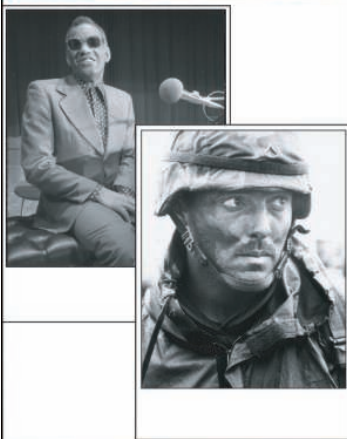
terror network of Osama bin Laden, who has ancestral ties to this tribal-dominated Arabian Peninsula country that has long been a haven for Islamic extremists.

The eight suspected al-Qaida members told the court on the opening day of their trial Monday that they had planned to attack the British and Italian embassies and the French Cultural Center in the Yemeni capital and that they

received money and instructions from al-Qaida operatives in Saudi Arabia. They face five to 10 years in jail if convicted.

The suspects, including five Yemenis, Iraqi-born Swiss national Anwar Bayan Sadiq al-Gaylani and Syrians Omran Mohammed Said and Majid Omar Nizam, were detained during recent months in a crackdown on terrorism by Yemeni authorities.

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Qatar sponsors anti-terrorism protests

BY ADNAN MALIK

The Associated Press

DOHA, Qatar — Waving banners saying "No To Terrorism," more than 1,000 Qatari on Monday protested the weekend's rare suicide bombing in this sleepy Gulf state that killed one Briton and injured a dozen others.

The state-orchestrated rally was held in a desert lot several hundred yards from the Doha Playhouse Theater, which was targeted in Saturday's suicide bombing that Qatar has blamed on an Egyptian computer programmer who had worked here for five years.

About 20 Western expatriates, some wearing blue jeans, were among the Qatari protesters, hundreds of whom wore white

flowing robes, waved Qatar's maroon and white national flag and raised placards denouncing terrorism and saying "Western Expats, We Love You." Several Qatari held somber prayers at the protest site.

The attack killed Jonathan Adams, a British teacher who was the director of a local production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," the play that was being performed when the suicide bomber struck.

"I am here for John and to express my anger at what happens and I believe this is not the work of Qatar," said Nick Blesley, a 56-year-old employee of the state-owned Qatar Petroleum company, from Glasgow, Scotland, who was a friend of Adams.

Qatari media outlets called for people to take part in the "Rally of Indignation" pro-

test in Doha's northern Farek Kelab suburb Monday afternoon. Nearby, about 50 heavily armed paratroopers patrolled the cordoned-off theater compound devastated by the blast. Foreigners attended the protest despite warnings from Western embassies not to gather in public.

Newspapers plastered pictures of the alleged bomber, Egyptian Omar Ahmed Abdullah Ali, alongside photographs of Adams. The Briton had lived in Qatar for two years after working in Dubai and Sri Lanka, according to reports.

"We are very angry with what is happened in our country and we will back our government in every way to make sure none of this will ever happen again," said Hassan al-Kindi, a 60-year-old Doha busi-

nessman, who attended the rally. "We want the world to know that Qatar is a safe place for everyone."

The idea of organizing an anti-terrorism rally is similar to tactics used by other Gulf nations trying to turn public opinion against terrorist acts.

In Saudi Arabia, for example, the government has publicized several cases where families of suicide attackers have condemned their sons. Families have often called the attacks un-Islamic.

Saudi authorities have also aired television documentaries showing families' agony after attacks, and persuaded Islamic clerics to describe such acts as un-Islamic.

Qatari papers carried full-page ads condemning the attack and offering condolences to Adams' widow and children.

Indonesia planning to ban terror group

BY CHRIS BRUMMITT

The Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Indonesian plans to formally outlaw the al-Qaida-linked terror group Jemaah Islamiyah, a move that will make it easier for authorities to arrest and prosecute militants in the world's most populous Muslim nation, a top security official said Monday.

Banning the organization — which is listed by the United Nations as a terrorist group — will please the United States and other foreign governments but risks opposition from Muslim groups and political parties that fear it may herald a broader crackdown on Islamic activists.

Ansyad Mbai, who heads the counterterrorism desk at Indonesia's Coordinating Ministry for Political and Security Affairs, said the government intends to outlaw the group, which is blamed for a host of attacks and plots throughout Southeast Asia, including the 2002 Bali nightclub attacks.

"I am convinced that this will

happen because I know President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono is very concerned with this problem," he said. "The reason this is not being done immediately is because the political situation is still very sensitive."

Authorities have locked up more than 150 militants in the last three years, but officials balk at publicly identifying them as belonging to Jemaah Islamiyah or being motivated by sympathy with al-Qaida.

Part of the reluctance to ban Jemaah Islamiyah rests on its name, which means "Islamic community." Proponents of an Islamic state in secular Indonesia, who were brutally repressed under former dictator Suharto, fear that such a ban could mean they too will be targeted.

Mbai said that banning the group was essential in the fight against terror.

Jemaah Islamiyah's alleged spiritual leader, Abu Bakar Bashir, was sentenced to 30 months in jail earlier this month for conspiracy in the 2002 Bali nightclub bombings that killed 22 people.

Christians celebrate Palm Sunday in Jerusalem



Christian pilgrims walk down the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem, some holding palm leaves, during the traditional Palm Sunday procession. Palm Sunday, which marks the beginning of Holy Week for Christians, commemorates Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, when his followers laid palm branches in his path. Holy Week is the most important season on the Christian calendar and culminates with Easter Sunday.

Two U.N. peacekeepers killed in separate battles in Haiti

BY STEVENSON JACOBS

The Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — U.N. troops and ex-soldiers from Haiti's disbanded army fought two gunbattles in the country's southwest and center, killing at least four people, including two peacekeepers, in the deadliest

day for the 10-month-old U.N. mission, officials said.

The Sri Lankan and Nepalese soldiers who died Sunday were the first peacekeepers killed in fighting here since the U.N. troops arrived in June 2004, replacing a U.S.-led force, to try to stabilize the impoverished, volatile nation following the ouster of its leader.

The first clash erupted after U.N. troops raided a police station occupied by armed ex-soldiers in Petit-Goave, an ex-soldier stronghold about 45 miles west of Port-au-Prince, setting off a fierce gunbattle, U.N. spokesman Toussaint Kongo-Doudou said.

"We lost one man," Kongo-Doudou said, adding that three other

peacekeepers were injured and in stable condition. Two ex-soldiers died and 10 others were wounded.

Using a loudspeaker, the Brazilian commander of U.N. troops in Haiti, Lt. Ge. Augusto Helene Ribeiro, had tried for 20 minutes to get the former soldiers to surrender peacefully when they opened fire on U.N. troops, Kongo-Doudou said.

Later Sunday, a group of Nepalese soldiers driving to the central town of Hinche exchanged gunfire with a different group of former soldiers, U.N. spokesman Damian Onses-Cardona said. The ex-soldiers killed one Nepalese and stole one of their vehicles. It wasn't clear if the ex-soldiers suffered any casualties.

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Pope's frailty raises recovery doubts

BY WILLIAM J. KOLE
The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II's latest appearance stirred tens of thousands of pilgrims, but the frail pontiff's inability to manage a simple greeting to his largest audience in months raised new questions about his recovery.

John Paul pressed a hand to his face and pounded a lectern in apparent frustration during his Palm Sunday appearance, which lasted less than a minute, at a window of his apartment overlooking St. Peter's Square.

It was the first time in 26 years as pope that he was unable to preside over the Mass ushering in Holy Week, the most important season on the Christian calendar and long one of his favorite appointments.

His face looking drawn and his lips curled in a pucker, the 84-year-old pontiff did not offer even a simply worded greeting from his third-floor window, which was adorned with a braided palm frond and a crimson papal banner.

Just a week earlier, before his release from a Rome hospital

after Feb. 24 surgery to insert a breathing tube in his windpipe, John Paul had managed two sentences in a raspy voice. But on Sunday, with up to 50,000 expectant pilgrims packing the square, he said nothing, slapping the lectern with an open hand after waving an olive branch.

Vatican television did not zoom in close on the pope as it has during his other recent window appearances.

The adoring crowd applauded and grew teary-eyed at the sight of John Paul, clearly moved even though he didn't address the faithful or read out a few lines of his weekly blessing.

The mute appearance threw fresh doubts on the pope's convalescence after being hospitalized for two breathing crises in less than a month. It was yet another signal that the papacy is entering a new phase, with the pope in the background delegating important events to top churchmen.

The pope suffers from Parkinson's disease, which affects muscle control and makes it difficult for him to speak clearly. The Vatican has said the pope's doctors will decide when the tube should be removed from his throat.



Pope John Paul II touches his face after he blessed pilgrims and faithful from a window overlooking St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on Sunday. The pontiff was unable to preside over Palm Sunday Mass for the first time in his 26-year papacy, appeared at his apartment window to greet tens of thousands of pilgrims who filled St. Peter's Square.

Italy honors Mafia victims

The Associated Press

ROME — Thousands of students from across Italy gathered in a Rome stadium Monday to commemorate hundreds of policemen, magistrates and citizens killed by the Mafia in over a century.

About 8,000 students applauded as the names of 640 people who have been killed by the mob since 1993 were read out in Rome's Flaminio Stadium. The names that drew the biggest applause were those of anti-Mafia prosecutors Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino, killed in 1992 back-to-back slayings that shocked the country.

Rome's City Hall, one of the organizers, said the students were from 130 schools across the country, including from regions where organized crime is deeply rooted, such as Sicily, Calabria, Campania and Puglia in the south.

The ceremony was one in a series of events planned in the capital to commemorate victims of mob-related violence. Later in the day, the victims' names were to be read out loud in a solemn ceremony at the Capitoline Hill.

Italy has marked March 21 as a "Day of Memory and of Commitment" to continue the fight against the mob since 1996.

The Mafia has kept a low profile in recent years, pressing ahead with activities such as gaining control of public works contracts in Sicily.

The killings of Falcone and Borsellino, which provoked an unprecedented wave of anger in Italy, prompted the government to step up its war against the Mafia, and eventually led to the arrest of the then-head of the Sicilian Mafia, Salvatore "Totò" Riina.

However, the man who is believed to have taken over, Bernardo Provenzano, has been on the run for over 40 years and remains at large.

WWII bombing of Danish school remembered

BY JAN M. OLSEN
The Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — A few hundred people gathered Monday at the site of a school mistakenly bombed by British warplanes 60 years ago during an attack on the Nazi occupying forces' headquarters, and survivors recalled the horror of what became Denmark's worst wartime tragedy.

The March 21, 1945, accidental bombing of Copenhagen's Joan of Arc School killed 86 students and 13 adults.

The 48 British warplanes that roared over Copenhagen that day were heading for the Nazis'

Gestapo headquarters. Flying low to avoid radar and to ensure accuracy most of the planes dropped their bombs on the feared agency's building.

But one plane struck a lamp-post and crashed behind the school, which was run by nuns from France.

The planes that followed mistakenly thought the billowing smoke from the wreckage of the Mosquito plane was a marker for the target and they dropped their 500-pound bombs on the school at 11:22 a.m. Scores of students were killed in what proved to be Denmark's worst World War II catastrophe.

"It was a horrible day that

stands sharp in my memory," Elisa Lotz, a survivor, said in an interview after a brief memorial ceremony in front of a granite monument depicting a Roman Catholic nun sheltering two pupils.

The silent crowd of about 300 survivors, relatives and officials laid wreaths and flowers at the foot of the sculpture.

Another survivor, Lene Jensen, who was 7 years old at the time, remembered being buried in the rubble and being dug up by a firefighter.

"I was put on the ground and sat next to a little girl who was dead," she said.

Six 500-pound bombs reduced

the Gestapo headquarters to rubble and killed some 70 Nazis and 20 Danes held captive inside. Nine Royal Air Force crew members died when their planes were shot down by German anti-aircraft fire.

The destroyed school was never rebuilt. Instead, the spot is marked by the statue of the nun.

When German troops invaded their northern neighbor on April 9, 1940, they met little resistance. The Danish government protested but remained in power and cooperated with the Nazis, until they surrendered on May 4, 1945, as Allied troops advanced in Europe.

Except for fights with the Danish resistance, no battles were fought in Denmark.

Racist attacks on rise

PARIS — Racist and anti-Semitic violence in France nearly doubled in 2004, hitting the highest level ever recorded and showing new signs of slowing, according to an official study released Monday.

Jews and Muslims were the victims of 1,565 recorded acts of violence, threats and intimidation in 2004, up from 833 a year earlier, the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights said in its annual report.

Sausage grinder death

OSLO, Norway — A 40-year-old Norwegian was killed instantly Monday when he fell or was sucked into an industrial sausage grinder while at work in an Oslo meat factory, police said.

The man, whose name was not released, was working at the huge machine at the Akerberg Skogsløst Pølsefabrik. It was not im-

mediately clear how he ended up in the grinder at about 5:30 a.m.

The Norwegian Labor Inspection Authority was also investigating the cause of the accident, and the state of safety devices in and around the grinder.

France's 35-hour week

PARIS — Heated debate over dismantling France's 35-hour workweek has fed into wider political and literary soul-searching on themes ranging from the country's economic frailty and bureaucratic office culture to whether quality of life should be measured in time or money.

Lavagna's about to hold the final vote on a government-backed bill effectively restoring the previous 39-hour workweek.

President Jacques Chirac's government has sold the plan as a chance to "Work More to Earn More."

From The Associated Press

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IN THE STATES

Schiavo case goes before federal judge

BY VICKIE CHACHERE
The Associated Press

PINELLAS PARK, Fla. — The parents of Terri Schiavo asked a judge to reinstate the brain-damaged woman's feeding tube Monday, following an extraordinary political fight that consumed both chambers of Congress and prompted the president to rush back to the White House.

An attorney for Schiavo's parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, arrived at federal district court in Tampa and filed a request for an emergency injunction to keep their daughter fed.

It was assigned to U.S. District Judge James Whittemore, who was nominated to the court in 1999 by President Clinton. He set a hearing for Monday afternoon, according to a court Web site.

David Gibbs II, attorney for the parents, said the judge had sent a message saying he was reviewing the filings in the case.

Earlier Monday, the House, following a move by the Senate, passed a bill to let the parents ask a federal judge to prolong Schiavo's life by reinstituting her feeding tube. President Bush signed the measure less than an hour later.

Schiavo's husband, Michael Schiavo, said he was outraged that lawmakers and the president were intervening in the contentious right-to-life battle. He has fought for years with his wife's parents over whether she should be permitted to die or be kept alive under the feeding tube.



Bob Schindler, Terri Schiavo's father, foreground, and Terri's sister, Suzanne Vitadamo, appear outside the Woodside Hospice, where Terri is a patient, early Monday in Pinellas Park, Fla.

"This is a sad day for Terri. But I'll tell you what: It's also a sad day for everyone in this country because the United States government is going to come in and trample all over your personal, family matters," he told ABC's "Good Morning America" on Monday.

The lawsuit alleges a series of rights violations, including that Terri Schiavo's religious

beliefs were being infringed upon, that the removal of the feeding tube violated her rights and that she was not provided an independent attorney to represent her interests.

Outside the hospice where his daughter entered her fourth day without food or water, Bob Schindler told reporters "I'm numb. I'm just totally numb. This whole thing, it's hard to believe it."

A shout of joy was heard from the crowd outside the hospice when news of the House bill's passage came. Among those cheering was David Bayly, 45, of Toledo, Ohio: "I'm overjoyed to see the vote and see Terri's life extended by whatever amount God gives her."

The 41-year-old woman's feeding tube was removed Friday on a Florida judge's order. Schiavo could linger for one or two weeks if the tube is not reinstituted — as has happened twice before.

Terri Schiavo suffered brain damage in 1990 when her heart stopped briefly because of a possible potassium imbalance brought on by an eating disorder. She can breathe on her own, but has relied on the feeding tube to keep her alive.

Court-appointed doctors say she is in a persistent vegetative state with no hope of recovery. Her husband says she would not want to be kept alive in that condition, but her parents insist she could recover with treatment.

Bob Schindler visited his daughter late Sunday and said he noticed the effects of dehydration on her. He said she appeared to be getting tired, but eventually responded to his teasing by making a face at him. "It tells us she's still with us," he said.

The Battle for Schiavo

A look at the long legal battle over whether Florida Terri Schiavo, 41, may be taken off life support.



MEASURES TO...

REMOVE THE FEEDING TUBE OR KEEP SCHIAVO ALIVE

Feb. 1990: Schiavo suffers brain damage from heart failure.

Feb. 2000: Circuit Judge George W. Greer rules that Schiavo's feeding tube may be removed, as requested by her husband.

April 2001: The feeding tube is removed. Two days later, Circuit Judge Frank Quessada orders doctors to reinstate it.

June 2003: The 2nd District Court of Appeal upholds Greer's ruling to remove the tube.

Oct. 2003: Gov. Jeb Bush files a federal court brief urging that Schiavo be kept alive. He is denied.

Doctors remove the feeding tube.

The state legislature passes a bill, called "Terri's Law," to force Bush to reinstate. He orders the feeding tube reinstated.

Sept. 2004: Florida's Supreme Court rules that Terri's Law is unconstitutional.

Jan. 2005: The U.S. Supreme Court declines to hear the governor's appeal.

Feb. Greer grants an emergency stay blocking the removal of Schiavo's feeding tube. He later sets March 18 as the day the tube may be removed.

Wednesday: House passes legislation to try to block efforts to let Schiavo die.

Thursday: Senate passes separate legislation.

Friday: House committee subpoenas Schiavo and others. Florida judge blocks the subpoenas; U.S. Supreme Court lets that ruling stand. Feeding tube is removed.

Sunday: Senate passes legislation giving federal courts jurisdiction in the case.

Monday: House passes the same bill, sending it to President Bush for his signature.

Sources: AP staff reports LATWP

Religions differ over ethics of sustaining brain-damaged woman

The Associated Press

LONDON — The Vatican said pulling the feeding tube from an American brain-damaged woman interfered with divine providence.

Orthodox Jews took the opposite view, saying keeping her alive tampered with the process of death. And Islamic scholars were divided on the ethics of

Terri Schiavo's case.

The Vatican condemned the withdrawal of the feeding tube in its newspaper Monday.

"Who — and on the basis of which criteria — can establish to whom the 'privilege' to live should be given?" L'Osservatore Romano said in a commentary Monday. "Who can, before God and humanity, pretend with impu-

nity to claim such a right?"

Orthodox Judaism draws distinctions between letting someone die and causing their death, said Rabbi Noam Zohar, an expert on Jewish bioethics from the Bar Ilan university in Israel. "According to mainstream orthodox Jewish law, it is not only permissible but requisite to remove artificial impediments to the death pro-

cess because it is not permissible to place these things in the first place," Zohar said, adding that this applies only if there is no hope of recovery.

Opinion in the Muslim world is mixed. "Islamic scholars and scientists have two different opinions in this case, some say that ending the life of a person in a hopeless condition is considered murder and is forbidden, while others say that it could be done if the physicians assure that the patient is clinically dead," said Sawat Hijazi, a prominent Egyptian Islamic cleric.

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Supreme Court declines Moussaoui appeal

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court — which saw the return of Chief Justice William Rehnquist since being diagnosed with thyroid cancer last October — declined Monday to hear terrorism suspect Zacarias Moussaoui's appeal of a ruling upholding the Bush administration's power to bar certain witnesses from testifying at the trial.

Justices let stand a lower court ruling that allowed the government to pursue the death penalty while restricting Moussaoui's direct access to three al-Qaida terror captives. The lower court, citing national security concerns, said Moussaoui could use government-prepared summaries from the captives but not interview them himself. The Supreme Court action shifts the case back to a trial court that could begin as early as September.

Officials probe death of restrained passenger

NEW YORK — Prosecutors are investigating the death of a man who was subdued by several fellow airline passengers after he became disruptive on a New York-bound flight, a spokesman said Sunday.

William Lee, 48, was pronounced dead late Friday after he was removed from the American Airlines flight at John F. Kennedy International Airport. After he stood up in his seat and "loudly chastised" another passenger, flight attendants asked him to wait until they reached his row, said airline spokesman Tim Smith, who added that the man "got very, very belligerent and loud and disruptive and was told he would not be served any more alcohol." Seven male passengers restrained Lee, and they and the flight crew put flexible handcuffs on him and put him in his seat, Smith said.

From The Associated Press

Report says U.S. misled allies on nukes

BY DAFNA LINZER

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — In an effort to increase pressure on North Korea, the Bush administration told its Asian allies in briefings earlier this year that Pyongyang had exported nuclear material to Libya. That was a significant new charge, the first allegation that North Korea was helping to create a new nuclear weapons state.

gence reported, according to two officials with detailed knowledge of the transaction. North Korea, according to the intelligence, had supplied uranium hexafluoride which can be enriched to weapons-grade uranium — to Pakistan. It was Pakistan, a key U.S. ally with its own nuclear arsenal, that sold the material to Libya. The U.S. government had no evidence, the officials said, that North Korea knew of the second transaction.

and the seller was concealed to cover up the part played by Washington's partner in the hunt for al-Qaida leaders, according to the officials, who discussed the issue on the condition of anonymity. In addition, a North Korea-Pakistan transfer would not have been news to the U.S. allies, which view such transfers as a business matter between sovereign states.

The Bush administration's approach, intended to isolate North Korea, instead left allies increas-

ingly doubtful as they began to learn that the briefings omitted essential details about the transaction, U.S. officials and foreign diplomats said in interviews.

North Korea responded to public reports last month about the briefings by withdrawing from talks with its neighbors and the United States.

In an effort to repair the damage, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice traveled through East Asia over the weekend to try to

get the six-nation talks back on track.

The United States briefed allies on North Korea in late January and early February. Shortly afterward, administration officials, speaking to The Washington Post on the condition of anonymity, said North Korea had sold uranium hexafluoride to Libya and portrayed the briefings as part of regular discussions with China, South Korea and Japan ahead of a possible new round of negotiations on North Korea's nuclear program.



Visitors look at a DeLorean used in U.S. movie "Back to the Future" at the International Classic Cars China Tour on March 5 in Shanghai, China. John DeLorean, an innovative automaker who left a promising career in Detroit to develop the gull-winged sports cars, died Saturday of complications from a recent stroke.

Sports car developer DeLorean dies

BY JEFFREY GOLD

The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — While only about 9,000 of his namesake cars were ever built, John Z. DeLorean's place in auto history was assured as soon as the gull-winged sports cars rumbled off the assembly line.

DeLorean was among just a handful of U.S. entrepreneurs who dared start a car company in the last 75 years until his career was derailed by federal drug charges.

DeLorean died late Saturday in Summit of complications from a recent stroke, said Paul Connell, an owner of A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Directors in Royal Oak, Mich., which was handling arrangements. He was 80.

While apt to be remembered popularly as the man behind the car modified for time travel in the "Back to the Future" movies, DeLorean left a powerful imprint in automaking built on unique, souped-up cars.

A Detroit native, DeLorean broke the mold of staid Midwestern auto executives by "going Hollywood" and pushed General Mo-

tors Corp. to offer smaller models, auto historians said.

DeLorean was a rising if unconventional executive at GM who many believe was destined for its presidency before he quit in 1973 to launch the DeLorean Motor Car Co. in Northern Ireland. Eight years later, the DeLorean DMC-12 hit the streets.

Its hallmarks, such as an unpainted stainless steel skin and the gull-wing doors, have been ignored by mainstream automakers. The angular design, however, earned it a cult following.

But the factory produced only about 8,900 cars in three years, estimated John Truscott, membership director of the DeLorean Owners Association.

DeLorean's company collapsed in 1983, a year after he was arrested in Los Angeles and accused of conspiring to sell \$24 million of cocaine to salvage his venture.

DeLorean was later cleared of defrauding investors.

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Michael Jackson late to court again

BY TIM MOLLOY

The Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — An ill-looking and sometimes trembling Michael Jackson arrived late to his child molestation trial again Monday, walking hesitantly into court along with a doctor in surgical scrubs, but after a 45-minute delay the judge ordered testimony to resume with no explanation to the jury.

Superior Court Judge Rodney S. Melville took no apparent action against the singer, who he had threatened with arrest and revocation of bail when he failed to show up on time on March 10 after an early-morning trip to a hospital for treatment of what his lawyers said was a back injury.

On Monday, Jackson, 46, took tiny, hesitant steps entering the courtroom and appeared to be in great pain.

The doctor, Bert Weiner of Cottage Hospital in Santa Ynez, went into the judge's chambers for a private conference and remained in the front row of the courtroom when testimony resumed.

During the chambers conference, Jackson's brother Jackie and a security guard escorted the singer to a restroom. When he returned to the courtroom he was seen crying at the counsel table with a tissue over his face. He appeared to have trouble sitting and standing.

A call seeking comment from Jackson spokeswoman Raymone K. Bain was not immediately returned.



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**YOUR HOMETOWN
NEWSPAPER**

Miners dig 'golden' mountains

BY JOSEPH B. FRAZIER

The Associated Press

BURNT RIVER CANYON, Ore. — As the icy waters of Clark Creek swirl in his gold pan, Ken Anderson expertly reduces the contents, first to small pebbles, then smaller ones, then to a little sand.

"There's still too much there," he said. "When we get it down to a couple of tablespoons, we'll look for a few more expert washes and dips isolate a film of black sand in the bottom, and with a gaze born of 55 years' experience he spots it. It's no bigger than a pinpoint, but it's "colored" — gold.

"They say when you see gold you'll know it, no matter how small it is," said Anderson, 78, a retired mining engineer from Baker City.

Mining can be a pricey, risky proposition. "Maybe one prospect in 50 will turn out to be something, and most of those won't turn out to be," said Anderson.

Though it isn't a gold rush yet, Greg Visconti, area mining geologist for three national forests in northeastern Oregon, said, "In the past year mining claims have just about doubled."

There are probably 4,000 claims in the area, about 250 of them active, he said, noting that interest rises as the price hits \$400 and stays there. "A lot of people just say mining. Some are trying to make a living at it," he said.

While most new ventures are small, Denver-based Newmont Mining Corp., the world's largest, is building a \$200 million project near Battle Mountain, Nev.



Gold miner Jimmy Juhola swirls his pan to reduce the contents at Clark Creek in Burnt River Canyon, Ore.

But the go-it-alone flavor of the Old West hasn't vanished entirely. Jimmy Juhola works alone and figures he has worked Clark Creek in Eastern Oregon's Burnt River Canyon for 19 years.

With a white beard, slouch hat and a pistol on his hip, Juhola could be from central casting. He doesn't have a claim. And they watch where he digs, Anderson said. Juhola can read the ground like a map.

"Now this up here," he said through a hand-rolled cigarette, "this should pay about \$7 (per cubic yard). This here below won't pay you nothing." But this downturn, this is good, this could be \$40 dirt."

Juhola knocks some loose with a pick. Back at the creek outside his small trailer, water swishes in the pan, the top gravel washes off and the residue gets finer and finer. "I got three colors," he announces, peering into the pan.

He produced a half full of small nuggets coaxed from the dirt in earlier efforts.

Study: 1.1 million illegal immigrants now in U.S.

BY GENARO C. ARMAS

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The nation's undocumented immigrant population surged to 10.3 million last year, spurred largely since 2000 by the arrivals of unauthorized Mexicans in the United States, a report being released Monday says.

The population of undocumented residents in the United States increased by 23 percent from 8.4 million in the four-year period ending last March, according to the analysis of government data by the Pew Hispanic Center, a private research group.

That equates to a net increase of roughly 485,000 per year between 2000 and 2004. The estimate was derived by subtracting the number of unauthorized immigrants who leave the United States die or acquire legal status from the number of new undocumented immigrants who arrive each year.

The prospect of better job opportunities in the United States than in their native countries remains a powerful lure for many immigrants, said Pew center director Roberto Suro, pointing to a reason often cited by other researchers.

"The border has been the focus of federal efforts (to cut illegal entry) and has not produced a reduction in flow. Certainly that's an indication of ongoing demand," he said.

The population is growing at a similar pace as in the late 1990s even though the U.S. economy today isn't as robust, Suro said.

The population is likely near 11 million now. Mexicans by far remain the largest group of undocumented migrants at 5.9 million, or about 57 percent of the March 2004 estimate. Some 2.5 million others, or 24 percent, are from other Latin American countries.

Overall, the U.S. foreign-born population, regardless of legal status, was 35.7 million last year.

Researchers in Hawaii find WWII Japanese sub

The Associated Press

HONOLULU — The wreckage of a large World War II-era Japanese submarine has been found by researchers in waters off Hawaii.

A research team from the University of Hawaii discovered the I-401 submarine Thursday during test dives off Oahu.

"We thought it was rocks at first, it was so huge," said Terry Kerby, pilot of the research craft that found the vessel. "But the stories of it kept going up and up, three and four stories tall. It's a levitation down there, a monster."

The submarine is from the I-400 Sensusuiku Toki class of subs, the largest built before the nuclear ballistic missile submarines of the 1960s.

They were 400 feet long and nearly 40 feet high and could carry a crew of 144. The submarines were designed to carry three "fold-up" bombers that could be assembled for flight within minutes.

Kerby said the main hull is sitting upright and is in good shape. The I-401 numbers are clearly visible on the sides, and the anti-aircraft guns are in almost perfect condition, he said.

An I-400 and an I-401 were captured at sea a week after the Japanese surrendered in 1945. Their mission — which was never completed — reportedly was to use the aircraft to drop rats and insects infected with bubonic plague, cholera, typhus and other diseases on U.S. cities.

Lucky the turtle comes through pet shop fire with devilish reminder

The Associated Press

MICHIGANTOWN, Ind. — A turtle that was the only survivor of a pet shop fire may have emerged with a hellish memento.

The palm-sized red-eared slider turtle, named Lucky, was the only animal to survive a fire last October at Doris's A-Dora-ble Pet Shop in nearby Frankfort, about 40 miles northwest of Indianapolis.

Owner Bryan Dora now says he sees an image of Satan's face on the critter's shell.

He can spot lips, eyes, a goatee, shoulders and a pair of pointy horns on Lucky's back.

"The marking on the shell was like the devil wanted us to know he was down there," Bryan Dora said.

"To me, it's too coincidental that the only thing to come out unscathed would have this image on it."

The image was not visible before the fire and Dora speculates the intense heat might have caused the shell's color to change.

The turtle is healthy and there was no change in its behavior, he said.

The cause of the fire that destroyed nine businesses or offices in the 1912 building in downtown Frankfort has not been determined.

"Turtles can hold their breath quite awhile," Dora said. "He may have taken one breath just before and held it through the fire. Except that the fire went on and on for hours."



The shell of Lucky the turtle is said to show a likeness of Satan.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs	\$1,399
Dollar buys	67.758
British pound	\$1,916
Japanese yen (March 21)	102.00
South Korean won (March 19)	977.00

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.37678
British pound	\$1,916
Dollar (Dollar)	1.024
Denmark (Krone)	5.32
Egypt (Pound)	\$1,331/0.751
Euro	5.79
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7984
Hungary (Forint)	165.01
Israel (Shekel)	4.3070
Japan (Yen)	104.66
Kuwait (Dinar)	2.20180
Norway (Krone)	5.20
Philippines (Peso)	54.20
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.58
Singapore (Dollar)	1.024
South Korea (Won)	1,000.80
Switzerland (Franc)	1.11
Thailand (Baht)	38.52
Taiwan (New Dollar)	1.3160

(Military exchange rates are those for Japanese customers at military base facilities in the country of issuance or for U.S. customers at military bases in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates, i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany, the U.S. dollar is the local military bank facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS

London close	
Gold	\$431.05
Silver	\$7.18

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.50
Discount rate	3.50
Federal funds market rate	2.5075
3-month bill	2.80
30-year bond	4.76

Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America

Cents and Sensibility

Money tip of the day

Don't network — talk

The Associated Press

The business world is rife with jargon and buzzwords, with "networking" one of the most popular. Still, this much-practiced, little-understood ritual of career advancement and business protocol drives many people bonkers — it's stilted, degrading, obnoxious, obsequious, insincere, at all, right? Not necessarily, says Marc Karasu, a career counselor and vice president at Yahoo HotJobs, the job search site associated with Internet portal Yahoo Inc.

Consider networking akin to casual small talk at a social gathering, where you're doing it with ease, among acquaintances, thoughts of work and commerce a million miles from your mind.

Be relaxed and act relaxed. You're just chatting — not looking for a new job, sale or promotion.

"Networking, simply put, is conversations held with friends, family, colleagues and others that help you garner information that could be helpful to your job search," Karasu said in an e-mail.

"That means it can occur at almost any time — not just at formal 'networking events,' but at sporting events, holiday parties or even at the gym."

The alternative, you approach someone who knows exactly what this routine is about, triggers a defensive response, he said. The target of your networking tentacles is probably thinking you're looking for a favor of some sort.

STARS AND STRIPES. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THOMAS E. KELSCH, Publisher

THOMAS BERNARD, General Manager

L.T. COLVIN, J. SOCHA, Commander

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DAVID MAZZARELLA, Editorial Director

BOB GRUNSTAFF, Associate Editor

SAM ARNHEIM, Editor, Middle East

JOE BROWNE, Editor, East Europe

SCOTT BROWNE, Editor, Middle East

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Original meaning upheld

The author of "Look at the whole picture" (letter, Feb. 28) is missing the whole point of the religious-freedom debate.

The point is that the First Amendment only restricts government from religion. It does not restrict religion from government. The Supreme Court decision quoted in his letter is in alignment with this.

Religious-freedom advocates don't ignore or overlook the role of the Supreme Court. Rather, we consider the appropriate legal relationship between the judicial system and the Constitution.

The role of the U.S. Supreme Court, or any subordinate court, in ruling on matters of the Constitution or other laws is to interpret them according to the authors' original intent. They may clarify, but they do not have the authority to change or reinterpret a law. They may overturn a law only if it violates the Constitution.

Neither the Constitution nor the Supreme Court's decision in *Everson v. Board of Education* is worded to construe any restriction on religion's exerting its influence on government.

Furthermore, the religious convictions of Christians such as me, as well as the religious convictions of many from other faiths, do not allow us to set aside moral issues or other beliefs while participating in government, whether we do so as private citizens or as elected or appointed government officials. Religion, therefore, cannot be removed from government without requiring many to violate their religious convictions, and to do so would be "prohibiting the free exercise" of religion.

I challenge those on both sides of this issue to research the Constitution and other historical documents relevant to the debate; then decide for yourselves what the First Amendment really means. It is not depending on biased arguments from either side. The Supreme Court did in 1947, and it upheld religious freedom.

Sgt. David Kingsley

Forward Operating Base Caldwell, Iraq

Evolution: Only a theory

In response to "Support for scientific theory" (letter, March 14), I take issue with the letter writer's closing comment concerning the presentation of creationism and other theories being presented along with evolution in our classrooms.

The statement that "America has too much diversity to become a theocracy around the beliefs of one group" is ridiculous and hypocritical in relation to this topic. The fact that this statement was made by someone arguing against presenting creationism as well as evolution in our classrooms is nothing short of absurd.

Those of us who the letter writer refers to as "pro-creationists" are not fighting to have evolution removed from the curriculum; we are only asking that it be presented for what it is, scientific theory.

I have long been aware of the glaring

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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Staff Sgt. Steve Brenneman

Sembach Air Base, Germany

Evolution: The true myth

In regard to the theory of evolution, a recent letter writer felt it was necessary to address "reality vs. belief" and that schools need to "reinforce the scientific method" ("Support for scientific theory," March 14). I could not agree more.

The fact is that the theory of evolution is contradicted by two of the most basic and well-proven laws of science.

The first law of thermodynamics, also known as the law of the conservation of energy, simply states that nothing is being created or destroyed in our present environment. This law actually encompasses many other laws, such as those governing mass, linear momentum and electrical charges.

The second law of thermodynamics is perhaps even more powerful in refuting the claims of evolution. It is known as the law of entropy increase. Simply stated, it means that whatever is left to itself, without the influence of outside energy, will wear out and decay. In other words, when things are left to themselves, there is a universal tendency toward decay and disorder, not growth and organization.

Given what true science says about evolution, I find it highly hypocritical that organic evolutionists guard with great diligence the right to exclude creationist viewpoints from our schools. The letter writer stated that religion must "stop at the classroom door." But if religion is defined as one's basic belief about the nature and purpose of life, that may or may not include a belief in God. The theory of chance self-transformation of matter is a religiously just as surely as Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism or Islam. Different explanations or philosophies of creation should all be presented in our schools. Only through

open inquiry and examination of all theories can we hope to arrive at the truth.

After all, isn't that "reinforcing the scientific method" is all about?

Donald K. Morris

Wiesbaden, Germany

Hughes' task is impossible

Karen Hughes has been selected to be undersecretary of state for public diplomacy and public affairs. Her role will be to "improve our image in the Muslim world."

Talk about tasked to do the impossible; the target audience has absolutely no interest in learning about the great things the United States has done, not only for Muslims but for the world.

The vast majority of the target audience is in the "what have you done for me lately," "what am I going to eat today" and "what job can I find" modes. Those who read a newspaper may see a (buried) column on a vaccination program or food aid. The rest of the paper will remind them of the "oppression" of the Palestinians, and the "abuses" at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and Abu Ghraib, Iraq.

Just recently, a poll found the majority of Indonesians now view the United States in a favorable light. What a surprise! We just spent millions of dollars and millions of man-hours to help them (and others) through a disaster, and rightly so. As soon as the average Indonesian is able to put food on the table and have a roof over his head, he will "forget" who helped them.

We are dealing with cultures that think and perpetuate the idea that we nuked Sudan. We are dealing with societies who abort children if they are the wrong sex. We are dealing with cultures that think they can get rid of AIDS by having sex with a virgin.

Part of the problem is self-inflicted. You probably can't count the number of repressive regimes that we've propped up in the name of our national interest. Ask your mother what the gazillions of dollars in money and food aid have bought us so far.

We ought to face the fact that we won't be sitting around a table drinking tea with a good portion of the world, no matter how good we tell them that we are really the good guys.

Richard Arnold

Yongsan Garrison, South Korea

Why not an assault badge?

I have been reading the controversy over those who feel they should be awarded a Combat Infantryman-type badge.

I have a solution. We should follow the German World War II model and award assault badges to the noninfantry ranks. The Germans even had a close combat badge (*Nahkampfsabzeichen*) that was mainly for infantry, but other troops were eligible also.

We've copied German helmets and camouflage uniforms. Why not assault badges?

James Hoke

London

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

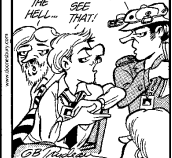
Doonesbury

SCOTT, ON BUSH'S SOCIAL SECURITY PLAN...

HOW EXACTLY DO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS ALLOW THE CRESTED PANTY THIEVES JUST ADD TRILLIONS MORE IN DEBT?

"SCOTT, AREN'T THEY SAYING PERSONAL ACCOUNTS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL AFTER THE HELLS ARE OPENED?"

YES, BUT LEAVING THEM OPEN HELLS ARE OPENED. NO WAY GET YOUR OWN QUESTIONS.



OPINION

Spoon-fed 'news' is a source of discontent

Contra Costa Times (Walnut Creek, Calif.)

Public relations morphs into propaganda disguised as news. The public becomes the unwitting victim — both intellectually and financially — as the government seeks to deceive, and the media, particularly broadcast, are helping them do it.

That's the nub of what's going on when the federal government produces and distributes "prepackaged reports" that look like the local evening news. Call it Poliwold.

This abomination apparently began in the Clinton administration.

The Bush administration has doubled its budget and seems to have refined it to an art form.

The biggest problem here is that the audience is unaware that it is watching something produced by the government. It is watching something meant, not to inform, but to spread certain ideas and instill certain beliefs. The audience, likewise, is unaware that this sham is being paid for with its tax dollars.

These video news releases, as they are known, may look the part, but they have nothing to do with journalism.

Yet they are being spoon-fed to the public through alleged journalists. In an effort to save money and time, dispensers of news are taking these government-delivered pieces and passing them off as their own research and reporting.

They delete information that would inform viewers what government agency has produced and presented this pointed data and purposely leave it to appear as if it were their own. This deceit is shameful.

Of course the material is flattering to the administration; the administration's people are producing it. It's not news; it's public relations.

The apparent hope of its producers is that it will leave a positive impression, one that is probably inaccurate and undeserved.

Despite being told by the General Accountability Office, the impartial investigative arm of Congress, that these fake news reports are unacceptable when viewers are unclear on the source of the material, multiple departments have told their people to ignore the GAO's advice to desist.

That means it's up to the media to label them clearly or, better yet, to actually stop using them and do their jobs. They must, without shortcuts, present a fair picture of what they are calling news.

Credibility and veracity still mean something to some of us, but nonchalance and bottom lines have made too many people far too willing to squander that.

It's time the media take responsibility for their part in this debacle. We must change our lazy methods and return to the old-school days of acquiring our own infor-



First Amendment and media lawyer Henry Abrams, right, makes a point during a March 11 panel discussion on media access, accuracy and accountability that was part of the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association's editorial conference in Pikesville, Md.

mation, cultivating our own sources and relying on our own work to put together and convey the news.

We are, however, in a different age. So it also means that individual viewers

must be aware and on guard as well. Sadly, they must be suspicious. The "news" has to be examined for balance and fairness and it should be monitored for presentations of government propaganda.

5 cents per gallon would reciprocate GIs' sacrifice

BY KEVIN C. VOTTA

Whether we like to admit it or not, we are a nation at war and, as President Bush has pointed out, "we have no certainty, except the certainty of sacrifice."

While almost all Americans would love to make some type of sacrifice for their country, the only groups that have been asked to make any sacrifice are the members of our military and their families. Americans are deeply concerned over the financial and emotional hardships the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have put (and will continue to put) on the members of our armed services and their families. Even those who oppose war in general would like to help ease the hardships our servicemembers and their families are facing. Thankfully, lessons of past wars have allowed Americans to understand that, while you may not support the war, you should always support the warrior.

Unlike in past wars, very little sacrifice has been asked of the average American. Surely our soldiers are truly grateful for letters and small contributions, but more need to be done on a larger scale, especially to help those with families in the States.

In looking at numerous ways to help our soldiers, one solution continuously received support of nearly 90 percent of Americans. That solution was a temporary 5-cent-per-gallon gas tax that would raise nearly \$7 billion per year to be used exclusively to provide tax-free payments to our soldiers and their families and to the families that have lost loved ones fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. This would provide a tax-free payment of \$500,000 to all families that lost a family member and it would provide an annual tax-free payment in the area of \$20,000 to all members of our military serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. When our last soldier comes home [from these conflicts], we can repeal the tax.

Why a gas tax? The reasons are numerous.

■ First, our soldiers and their families are in need of financial help. Many are re-

servists and National Guardsmen who have lost a substantial part of their income but still have the same bills. Those who are small-business owners are losing their businesses. The long months of separation are hard enough on a marriage, but the financial difficulties often lead to divorce. A small annual payment of a few thousand dollars would help.

■ Second, the family members of our soldiers who are lost in battle currently receive a little more than \$12,000 in "death benefits" from the government. While there are currently efforts in Washington to move that to \$100,000, that is still too low. It needs to be raised to \$500,000. How can we provide millions for each family that lost a loved one in the Sept. 11, 2001, tragedy but only \$12,000 or perhaps \$100,000 to our soldiers' families? There are currently about 1,000 children who have lost a mother or father fighting for our country (in Iraq and Afghanistan) and \$12,000 is barely enough to pay for the food on their table for a year.

■ Third, 90 percent of Americans want to pay this tax. Americans want to feel like they are making a sacrifice for our sol-

diers. This tax would cost the average American in the area of 50 cents per week.

■ Fourth, it helps with soldiers' morale and military recruits. While soldiers know Americans support them, this would be an excellent way to prove it. It would also let possible recruits know they will not have to worry about any financial difficulties should they be sent overseas to fight for their country.

■ Fifth, it raises \$7 billion for a Department of Defense that is facing tough budget issues and base closings. Either way, officials need to come up with the money for the likely increase in death benefits proposed in Congress. This would allow them to free up that money for other needs.

■ Sixth, it makes us aware that we are a country dependent on oil. While some have proposed a 50-cents- or 51-per-gallon gas tax, [my organization, Fight for Our Troops and Veterans] believes this would hurt our economy. Most experts believe gas would have to reach \$3.50 a gallon or \$100 per fill-up before buying habits changed. A 5-cents-per-gallon tax might not change buying habits, but it will make drivers aware when they fill up that maybe

they should start driving less or drive a little less in order to offset the small sacrifice a 5-cents-per-gallon tax would bring.

■ Seventh, with slight pressure (or, as President Bush likes to say, "jawboning") on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to dump additional crude on our market, the 5-cents-per-gallon tax would easily be offset. The likelihood is that OPEC would agree to this, considering its members have been the beneficiaries of past actions performed by our troops.

■ We feel they would do whatever possible to make sure our troops and their families are taken care of.

■ Finally, it is just the right thing to do. This month we celebrated the 140th anniversary of arguably our country's greatest speech, Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural. In his speech, the man who brought freedom to all Americans asked us to "care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan." This temporary tax would allow us to honor his request.

Kevin C. Votta is executive director of the Tampa, Fla.-based Fight for Our Troops and Veterans, a recently formed nonpartisan organization dedicated to helping U.S. servicemembers and veterans.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY





Quick Trips



Four malls in one day

There's power shopping within an easy drive of bases in Italy

BY KENT HARRIS
Stars and Stripes

Are you itching to get out and about and lose a bit of that winter weight, but not quite ready for the great outdoors?

Mail-hopping might be the solution.

There are four sizeable malls within a few hours of Aviano Air Base and Caserma Ederle in Vicenza in Italy. And any power shopper who tries to visit the more than 300 shops in a single day should burn a few calories.

Those who are really trying to lose weight can stop by the Palladio mall in Vicenza. It has a fitness center on the second floor.

That might make it easier to fit into all those new clothes. And, yes, there are plenty of clothing stores to choose from. Especially women's clothing stores.

The Le Piramidi mall in Vicenza boasts 26 stores devoted to women's fashions. That's not counting the seven shoe stores. All told, clothing stores make up almost half of the 120 businesses inside the sprawling complex.

The Cityper supermarket and Ovinio, a furniture store, are the anchor tenants. Several large businesses, including a movie theater, surround the mall.

Besides the fitness center, the Palladio features 62 shops, including anchor tenants Misfero, a supermarket, and Media World, an electronics store. Again, about half the shops are clothing stores.

On the other side of Venice, about 42 miles from Vicenza and 48 miles from Aviano, the Valecenter sits in the town of Marcon. Though not as big as Le Piramidi, the mall is set in a



Le Piramidi is a complex of 120 businesses in Vicenza, making it a prime shopping area for Americans stationed at Caserma Ederle. The blue sign is for a bingo parlor on the third floor.



similar atmosphere, with a handful of other large businesses, including a movie theater, surrounding the mall itself.

Its 74 stores are anchored by the Carrefour supermarket and Castorama, a home-and-garden store. Carrefour, part of a French chain, might be the most impressive store in all four facilities. It has 46 checkout stands, though seemingly only a few operate at any one time. Still, that's an indication of the size of the place. Browse the bakery, produce, seafood, meat, cheese



PHOTOS BY KENT HARRIS/Stars and Stripes

Above: The Adriatico in Portogruaro is the closest to Aviano; almost half its stores are devoted to clothing. Above left: The Carrefour supermarket in Marcon's Valecenter is like an indoor farmer's market.

On the QT



Directions

All four malls are fairly close to Autostrada 4.

• **The Valecenter** in Marcon is the simplest to find. Take the Marcon exit (the first one east of the Venice airport exit).

• **To reach the Adriatico** mall from Vicenza, take the Portogruaro exit off the A-4 and then make an immediate right off the A-28 after leaving the toll booths. Go straight at the stoplight, follow the road to the left and turn right into the center.

• **To reach the Palladio** mall from Aviano, take the Vicenza Est exit off the A-4, the first right in the traffic circle and turn right following the "Centro Commerciale" sign into the back of the mall parking lot.

• **To reach the Le Piramidi** mall, turn right on the SS-11 (which runs past the front of the Palladio mall) and continue a few miles to a large traffic circle. Follow the "Centro Commerciale" sign from the circle to reach the parking lot.



Times

- **Le Piramidi:** 2-8:30 p.m. Monday, 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday.
- **Palladio:** 2-9 p.m. Monday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.
- **Adriatico:** Monday 12:30-9:30 p.m. Monday, 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.



Food

- **Le Piramidi:** 16 places to eat, including McDonald's, two pizza parlors, Chinese and five gelaterias.
- **Palladio:** seven eating spots (no McDonald's).
- **Valecenter:** nine eating spots, including two McDonald's (one outside).
- **Adriatico:** five eating spots, including McDonald's.



Costs

Half a tank of gasoline and 12.60 euros in road tolls to take in all four malls in one day. Parking is free. Shopping carts cost 50 euro cents to 1 euro; the money is refunded when you take it back.

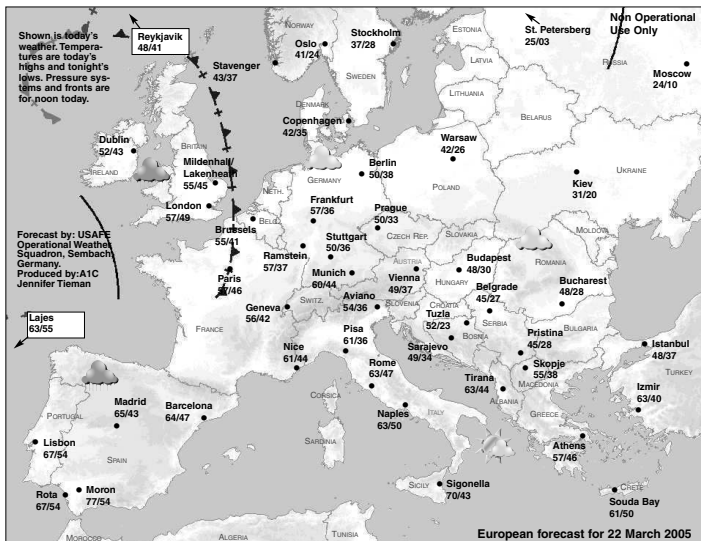


Information

Two of the malls have Web sites, however both are in Italian. The Adriatico's is www.portogruaro.net/Galleria, and Palladio's is www.centropalladio.com.

— KENT HARRIS

E-mail Kent Harris at harris.k@mail.estripes.osd.mil.



EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the upper 50s to low 60s, Wednesday lows in the 40s.

Britain, Ireland: Cloudy with rain.
Highs in the lower to mid 50s,
Wednesday lows in the mid to upper

Croatia and Bosnia: Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s, Wednesday lows in the lower 20s.

France: Cloudy with isolated rain-showers. Highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s, Wednesday lows in the mid 40s.

Northern Germany: Partly to mostly cloudy. Highs in the 50s, Wednesday lows in the upper 30s to mid 40s.

Southern Germany: Partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 50s to lower 60s, Wednesday lows in the mid 30s to lower 40s.

Hungary: Sunny. Highs in the upper 40s, Wednesday lows in the lower 30s.

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy in the morning, partly to mostly cloudy in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 50s, Wednesday lows in the mid 30s.

Southern Italy: Sunny to partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s, Wednesday lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s, Wednesday lows in the upper 20s to lower 30s.

Norway: Partly cloudy in the morning, sunny to partly cloudy in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 20s to mid 30s, Wednesday lows in the lower 40s.

Portugal, Spain: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 50s to upper 60s,

Turkey: Sunny to mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers in the after-



AFRIC

	HI	LO		HI	LO
Cape Town	81	62	Mogadishu	90	78
Dakar	77	66	Nairobi	82	63
Freetown	90	77	Rabat	70	51
Kinshasa	90	72	Tripoli	77	48





THE WORLD

	HI	LO		HI	LO
Amsterdam	58	44	Manila	91	77
Bahrain	80	66	Mexico City	80	51
Beijing	58	36	Montreal	37	22
Beirut	68	59	Riyadh	85	70
Bermuda	68	61	Rio de Jan	83	77
Caracas	88	75	Seoul	58	39
Helsinki	30	18	Sofia	49	26
Hong Kong	72	62	Sydney	70	65
Ishon	67	54	Tokyo	58	50



SUN & MOON

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (Baghdad)	0604 A.M.	0603 A.M.
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	0624 A.M.	0622 A.M.
Sunset (Baghdad)	1816 P.M.	1817 P.M.
Sunset (Frankfurt)	1842 P.M.	1843 P.M.

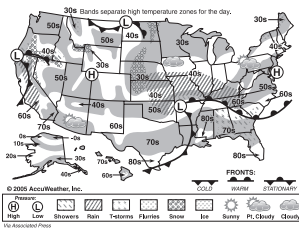
			
First qtr.	Full moon	Last qtr.	New moon

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

[illegible]

THE UNITED STATES TODAY

As of noon, Eastern U.S. time



**AUTO
EXCHANGE**
New Car Sale

Proudly Serving the European Military Community for 25 Years!



Few four-leaf clovers

PA MERCER — George Kaminski, who has spent more than half of his life behind bars, has one more reason to hate prison.

"There are no four-leaf clovers here," Kaminski, 53, told *The Herald of Sharon*.

Kaminski, serving time for crimes including burglary and shooting at a police officer, has collected a world record 72,927 four-leaf clovers since 1995. He found them on the grounds of various Pennsylvania prisons.

But now that he moved to a minimum-security facility with fewer clovers, he's worried about the competition.

Edward Martin Sr., of Soldotna, Alaska, claims to have collected more than 76,000 four-leaf clovers. The 73-year-old retiree has applied to Guinness to be recognized as the new record holder.

Oahu drownings

HI HONOLULU — Honolulu police say they believe a 31-year-old man drowned off Oahu's Waianae Coast while trying to save his 54-year-old companion, who also drowned.

The bodies of Stephen Kumagai and Soledad Samorin were recovered from waters off Lahilahi Point in Makaha.

The Honolulu Medical Examiner's Office has confirmed that the couple died due to drowning.

Kumagai's younger brother, David, said a police detective and a physician at the Medical Examiner's Office told the families that Stephen Kumagai probably jumped into the water to save his girlfriend, who could not swim.

David Kumagai says his brother "died a hero."

Boycott canceled

LA NEW ORLEANS — Leaders of a civil rights group have decided not to pursue a threatened boycott against the city over the death of a black tourist outside a Bourbon Street bar.

The Rev. Charles Steele, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said he is impressed with the way city officials have reacted to the situation.

"I had a better understanding that they know we have a problem, they know that I mean business, and I know they mean business," Steele said after meetings with Mayor Ray Nagin, Police Chief Eddie Compass and clergy leaders.

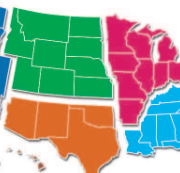
In January, Steele threatened to organize a boycott by black tourists if authorities did not take seriously the idea that racism was part of the reason Levon Jones died in a fight with three white bouncers.

Public service pays

RI PROVIDENCE — One in seven employees at the General Assembly received a pay raise this fiscal year, ranging from \$941 to \$15,423.

The survey done by *The Providence Journal* shows 64 legislative employees have received raises since July 1. The largest raises went to lawyers in House Speaker William Murphy's office. Thirteen workers in the legislature's auditor general's office got raises, ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,500 a year.

Two of the raises accompanied



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

promotions to higher-paying jobs, according to Marisa White, the director of the Joint Committee on Legislative Services. One of them was to the wife of House Majority Whip Peter Kilmarlin, and reflected her promotion from data analyst to a \$66,564-a-year principal systems analyst job.

Murphy said the pay increases were meant to level legislative employees' salaries with those paid for similar positions in state government. "The process is not yet complete. And that's where we stand," according to a statement from his office.

Animal cruelty bill

TX AUSTIN — Supporters of a proposed bill that would strengthen the state's animal-cruelty laws say loopholes prevent many cases from being prosecuted, including a man who ran over his puppy with a lawnmower.

The bill, however, is opposed by a hunters' group, and farm organizations are studying whether it would affect livestock producers.

The push for stricter legislation is led by the Texas Human Legislation Network and Bell County Attorney Richard J. Miller, both of whom said numerous cases of animal cruelty in recent years have gone unpunished.

Miller said he was unable to prosecute a man who deliberately ran over his puppy with a lawnmower because the cruelty law only covers killing someone else's animal and because the puppy's instant death didn't meet the law's definition of terror.



Eggs-cellent

Abigail Scantlin, of Overland Park, Kan., searches for candy-filled plastic eggs Saturday during the 12th annual Eggstravaganza Easter egg hunt in Leawood, Kan.

A bill by state Rep. Toby Goodman, R-Arlington, would make it an offense for someone to kill his or her own animal in a cruel manner and would extend the law to protect wild animals.

The bill would also make it illegal to kill or injure strays or someone else's livestock or train animals to fight one another — current law requires people to be caught causing animals to fight, according to the humane group.

Public property ban

HI HONOLULU — A Senate committee has advanced a measure to repeal a law opposed by civil rights groups and others because it lets authorities ban people from public property.

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved a bill to repeal Act 50, which allows police and other officials to block a person from public property for up to a year after writing a warning or issuing a request for them to leave.

The law was aimed at removing squatters from public campgrounds, parks, beaches and other public places where they illegally put up tents and other temporary shelters.

But its vague language leaves the law open to such abuses as keeping voters out of polling places or barring groups from the grounds of the state Capitol, thereby chilling constitutional rights to free speech, the American Civil Liberties Union has said.

Four die in accidents

WY ROCHESTER — Separate accidents in Wyoming and Monroe counties left four people dead, sheriff's officials said.

The first happened when a driver lost control of his car coming out of a curve on Route 98 in Bennington, flipping several times before striking a building. The driver, 37-year-old David Sheffield of Warsaw, died at the hospital and passenger Alicia Omons, a 27-year-old from Varysburg, was pronounced dead at the scene.

A few hours later, two men were killed when their vehicle struck a tree in Penfield. Both the driver, 20-year-old Adam Fici of Penfield, and passenger Christopher Fici, 19-year-old from Fairport, died at the scene.

The accidents were under investigation.

She's not dead yet

VA ALEXANDRIA — When social worker Charlene Kyer arrived at Ceguma Thomas's house to check on her one morning, she wasn't able to rouse the woman from bed. Unable to find a pulse, Kyer called the paramedics. They, too, couldn't find a pulse and drove away a few minutes later, leaving Thomas with three police officers to process the scene where she died.

The only problem was, Thomas wasn't dead. "Everyone thought I was dead," the 56-year-old said with a laugh. "It happened before where I quit breathing, and people think I've gone."

After a police officer noticed one of Thomas's eyelids move and another officer heard the sounds of strained breathing, the paramedics were called back to the house. Thomas was taken to the hospital, where she spent four days hooked to intravenous fluids.



Just bubbling over

World-renowned bubble artist Fan Yang breaks his own Guinness World Record by encasing 18 people in a soap bubble at Toys "R" Us Times Square in New York. The event, sponsored by Gazillion Bubbles, was held to kick off National Bubble Week and the arrival of spring.



Proof is in the pudding

Jonah Barrow, 3, makes quick pudding, placing first in a pudding eating competition during Chocolate Fest at the Mall of Abilene in Abilene, Texas.



On their toes

Dancers from Woods School of Irish Dance, South Boston neighborhood in Boston, perform in front of the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center.



A time to mourn
killed in a fire.

Funeral director Arthur Hickerson releases 11 white doves into the air at Providence Park Cemetery in Marrero, La., at the gravesite of 11 people killed in a fire.



Big gulp
Zookeeper Karen Gibson waters the Houston Zoo's baby elephant Bella, who was born Aug. 17. Warm weather and spring break have drawn large crowds to the zoo.



Hugs for grandpa
Chief Warrant Officer 4 John Travers, of Independence, Mo., a member of the 325th Field Hospital U.S. Army Reserve unit, holds his granddaughter, Nicole Dover, 5, also of Independence, after his unit's flight was greeted by family and friends, in Kansas City, Mo. The unit returned from duty in Afghanistan.



Spring ritual
Members of the Westerly Morris Men dance at dawn in Ledyard, Conn., to celebrate the renewal of spring. The vernal equinox is the moment at which the sun lies precisely above the equator, astronomically marking the beginning of spring. The ceremonial dance shakes off winter's death and promotes fertility in field, flock and man.

Inhaling from aerosol can

MA CORNITH — A 15-year-old high school student collapsed in a study hall after he inhaled the contents of an aerosol can in order to get high, officials said.

The boy received medical attention at a local hospital and was doing fine, said Principal Garry Spencer. He said unspecified disciplinary action was taken against the boy.

Inhaling chemical fumes to get a brief high, a practice called huffing, had been tried by 15 percent of Maine eighth-graders, according to the 2004 Maine Youth Drug and Alcohol Use Survey.

More than 1,400 common items can be huffed, according to the Maine Office of Substance Abuse. Kids usually use aerosol cans to get the chemical high.

Monument to reopen

DC WASHINGTON — The Washington Monument will reopen to the public on April 1 after the completion of security upgrades, the National Park Service announced.

The monument has been closed since Sept. 7, when the \$15 million project began. The security improvements include vehicle barriers and a new lighting system.

Visitors will be able to travel by elevator to the top of the 555-foot tall monument when it reopens, but the surrounding 53 acres will remain off-limits until late June, said Vikki Keys, superintendent of the National Mall and memorial parks.

Robbery spree suspected

NH MANCHESTER — Police believe the same man is responsible for as many as 10 robberies in the city in the last eight months.

The robbery spree started July 8 at a Bank of New Hampshire branch.

The most recent target was a Hannaford's grocery store.

Two other grocery stores and two other banks also have been hit some of them multiple times.

Detectives suspect the same man committed all 10 because the robber in each case was described as a white, stocky man between 5 feet 10 inches and 6 feet tall.

In each case, the robber handed the teller or grocery store clerk a note demanding cash and indicating he had a gun.

However, no weapon ever was displayed.

Texas vanity tax

TX DALLAS — A nip and a tuck could cost Texans a few more bucks, if some state lawmakers get their way.

The state House has passed a 7.5 percent tax on elective cosmetic procedures like facelifts, breast surgery and nose jobs. The bill still needs Senate approval.

"This may bring in more money than oil," joked Wick Allison, publisher and editor of D Magazine, which covers the Dallas fashion and party scene.

Almost 40 percent of U.S. plastic surgeons practice in California, New York, Florida and Texas — a state where fashion and beauty is just as competitive as football and big business.

Giuliani behind stadium

NY NEW YORK — Former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani — a longtime advocate for new stadiums for New York's sports teams — is lending his support to the plan to build a new home for the Jets in Manhattan.

Giuliani, who talked about building a West Side stadium for the Jets while he was still in office, is featured in a new commercial promoting the project.

The commercial begins with Giuliani saying "I love New York." The former mayor goes on to assert that the project will help create jobs.

"A city that continues to grow, that continues to build, is a city that can put teachers and firefighters and police officers, tens of thousands of New Yorkers to work," he says.

Before leaving office, Giuliani announced a deal to build new stadiums for both the Mets and the Yankees. The plan was shelved by Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Not ready to retire

TX DALLAS — Low-fare carrier Southwest Airlines plans to support a group of pilots who are challenging a federal rule that forces them to retire at 60, a spokesman for the airline said.

Southwest plans to file a friend-of-the-court brief with the U.S. Supreme Court opposing the 1980s regulation that bars airline pilots from flying after they reach 60, regardless of their health, said Ed Stewart, a Southwest spokesman.

"Our thought is that Southwest Airlines has dedicated and talented pilots that are being forced to retire because of chronological age," Stewart said.

The Federal Aviation Administration says the retirement rule is necessary for safety. Officials have argued that pilots lose critical cognitive and motor skills as they age.

Church member charged

NY BINGHAMTON — A 30-year member of a Unitarian Universalist church was arrested for vandalizing its property with anti-gay messages.

Matthew Fox, 49, of Binghamton, was charged with fourth-degree criminal mischief and ordered to have no contact with church officials.

The church discovered vandalism to a banner on the front lawn that said "Civil marriage is a civil right." An anti-gay statement was also chiseled into the sidewalk.

Investigators said Fox admitted to committing the vandalism.

Casino expansion nixed

CA SAN PABLO — An American Indian tribe has shelved plans to build an expanded casino with 2,500 slot machines in the San Francisco Bay area after state lawmakers said it would be too big for the community.

The Lytton Band of Pomo Indians said in a letter to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger that they did not think the Legislature would have approved the project.

Instead, the tribe will renovate and install hundreds of new games — but not slot machines — at its existing 700,000-square-foot card-room called Casino San Pablo.

Stories and photos from wire services

AFTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first scoreboard page in the sports section or AFTS's Web site at <http://my.aft.commedia.com/>

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2005

(AFT-FAMILY)	(AFT-MOVIE)	(AFT-SPORTS)	(AFT-AMERICA)	(AFT-NEWS)	(AFT-SPORTS)	(AFT-ENTERTAINMENT)	(AFT-PACIFIC)
9:00 Starline	Movie "Cloned" (1997, Science Fiction) Elizabeth Perkins, Alan Rosenberg	Dr. Phil	Jocquelyn	Hardball	Auto Racing Off-Road Racing - Race Two (Taped)	30-Minute Meals	Jocquelyn
9:30 Sagwa-Siamcat		Headline News	Headline News			Headline News	Headline News
10:00 Franklin		ESPNs	ESPNs	The O'Reilly Factor	College Wrestling NCAA Championship From St. Louis (Taped)	Striped	ESPNs
10:30 Reading Rainbow (E)	[43] Movie *** "The Elephant Man" (1980, Drama) John Hurt, Anthony Hopkins. Based on the life of the man, strongly affected by John Merck.	[33] Guiding Light	My Heaven "Dropping In"	Nightline		8 News	My Heaven "Dropping In"
11:30 Starline		[17] General Hospital	Headline News	Movie *** "Final Destination" (2000, Horror) Devon Sawa. Death stalks the young survivors of a fatal plane crash.	SportsCenter	The King of Queens	Movie *** "Anger Management" (2003, Comedy) Adam Sandler. A nutty therapist pushes a meek patient to the limit.
12:00 The Explorer		Headline News	Movie *** "Used People" (1980, Shirley MacLaine, A Jewish widow falls for her late husband's Italian friend.	Today	NASCAR Racing Nextel Cup Series - Golden Corral 500 From Atlanta Motor Speedway in Hampton, Ga. (Taped)	Griffins	Pacific Report
12:30 The Wiggles "Wiggle Up"		Judge Judy	Today	Headline News		Charm'd "Purge From My Past"	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
13:00 Bob the Builder		Today	Today	Headline News		Strong Medicine	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
13:30 Dragon Tales (E)		Today	Today	Headline News		Any Day Now "It's a Mother-Daughter Thing"	The Tonight Show With David Letterman
14:00 Blue's Clues "Geography"		Today	Today	Headline News		Wild World "The Long Gun"	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson
14:30 Barney & Friends (E)		Today	Today	Headline News		Law & Order "Possession"	Dennis Miller
15:00 Funniest Home Videos		Today	Today	Headline News		The Simpsons	Countdown With Keith Urban
15:30 Growing Pains		Today	Today	Headline News		Everybody Loves Raymond	Countdown With Keith Urban
16:00 Pokémon "A Way Off" (Part 2 of 3)		Today	Today	Headline News		Star Trek: Enterprise "E2"	Access Hollywood
16:30 Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 2 of 3)		Today	Today	Headline News		CSI: Miami "Broken"	Headline News
17:00 Doug (E)		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	The Hot List
17:30 The Wild Thornberrys		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
18:00 The Fairly OddParents		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
18:30 Rugrats		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
19:00 The Proud Family (E)		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
19:30 The Amanda Show		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
20:00 Everwood "Blind Faith"		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
21:00 Starline "Slacker's Girl"		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
21:30 Sister, Sister		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
22:00 The Cosby Show		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
22:30 Home Improvement		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
23:00 Touched by an Angel "Leprosy"		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America
23:30		Today	Today	Headline News		Friends	Good Morning America

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2005

00:00 Doug Doug's Big Plan (E)	[1130] Movie *** "Galaxy Quest" (1999, Tim Allen)	Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
00:30 The Wild Thornberrys		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
1:00 The Fairly OddParents		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
1:30 Rugrats		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
2:00 The Proud Family (E)		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
2:30 The Amanda Show		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
3:00 Everwood "Blind Faith"		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
3:30 Bob the Builder		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
4:00 Sister, Sister		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
4:30 Sesame Street (E)		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
5:00 Barney & Friends (E)		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
6:00 Clifford the Big Red Dog (E)		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
7:00 Dragon Tales (E)		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
7:30 The Wiggles "Hooray"		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
8:00 The Explorer		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
9:00 Starline		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
9:30 Sagwa-Siamcat		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
10:00 Franklin		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
10:30 Reading Rainbow (E)		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
11:00 Sagwa-Siamcat		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
11:30 Stanley "McKicking Scat"		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
12:00 The Explorer		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
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13:30 Bob the Builder		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
14:00 Blue's Clues "Pretend Jobs"		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
14:30 Barney & Friends (E)		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
15:00 Funniest Home Videos		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
15:30 Growing Pains "First Boob"		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
16:00 Pokémon Ash Meets Pirna		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
16:30 Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 3 of 3)		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
17:00 Doug Doug Gets His Wish		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
17:30 The Wild Thornberrys		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
18:00 The Fairly OddParents		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
18:30 Rugrats		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
19:00 Even Stevens		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
19:30 Kenan & Kel "The Raffle"		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
20:00 Gilmore Girls "Back in the Saddle Again"		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
20:30 The Wiggles "Hooray"		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
21:00 Depress-Ned		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
21:30 Depress-Ned		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
22:00 The Cosby Show		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
22:30 Home Improvement		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
23:00 Touched by an Angel "The Initiation"		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame
23:30		Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Play With Me Sesame

FACES

Hear that rebel yell?

As Billy Idol approaches his 50th birthday, he says he's back for more, more, more

By JIM FARBBER

New York Daily News

He may be staring down the barrel of his 50th birthday, but that hasn't put a crimp in Billy Idol's ability to leer.

Ask the famously randy star about his gig at the high-profile South by Southwest festival, which took place Wednesday, and he says, with a snicker, "I'll be playing on-stage with those lovely girls the Donnas, so they're fair game."

Allude to his new single, "Scream," which is about, er, oral pleasures, and Idol says, "Well, 'My Ding-A-Ling' was Chuck Berry's biggest record. So it seemed like a good idea."

In fact, Idol will need a lot of good ideas to rebrand himself as a relevant pop star.

Twelve long years have passed since he last put out an album of original material — an epic wander in the desert that finally ends later this month with the release of "Devil's Playground."

In the intervening time, Idol got on and off crack, overdosed, experienced a life-threatening motorcycle accident, suffered the end of a second long-term relationship, and had a major album project shelved halfway through.

"I was going into a dark place," he says. "I was burned out after 20 years of balls-to-the-walls, blazing, we-don't-give-a-damn, there-sin't-no-future, live-for-now [attitude]. I was losing youthful energy."

He also was turning into a cartoon. With his seemingly permanent sneer and endless fist-pumps plastered all over MTV, Idol started to seem as contrived as his name. When grunge came in, he got lumped in with the hair bands as a sexist anachronism.

Idol says things had been going south for a long time due to drugs and overwork. Even during his commercial peak, in 1987, he says, "I can remember staying up for three weeks doing crack. I'd (think) people were filming me and I was hearing people

in the next apartment talking about me."

Watching an MTV interview in 1990, Idol recalls that he thought to himself, "It seems like I'm dead already."

His sales began to slump with 1993's "Cyberpunk." The next year Idol had his OD. His record company, EMI, still wanted him to make a record. But the label and the star had very different ideas of what it should sound like. The singer says they wanted "Billy Idol lite."

Yet Idol says that the project's collapse encouraged his personal turnaround. He wound up spending more time at home, becoming a real father for the first time to his son, now 16.

"Instead of the ivory tower of being in a band, I was actually out there on the baseball diamond (with my son)," he says. "I sang the national anthem for his Little League team. Having to take him to school, having that responsibility, made me deal with real life," he says.

He now feels it was beneficial to his music that his late-'90s record "was shelved." "The worst thing would have been to chase fashion, to make a grunge record or some pop thing to fit in," he says.

Instead, Idol began rebuilding his career with the help of the music that had made him big to begin with. EMI issued a "Greatest Hits" package in 2000, expecting it to sell around 100,000 copies.

But it's sold more than 940,000 so far, according to SoundScan.

Meanwhile, Idol reunited with his main guitarist, Steve Stevens, and began touring again, with mounting success.

Noting the popularity of the hits album, VH1 awarded Idol a "Storytellers" episode, further upping his profile.

Yet all those efforts still milked nostalgia. They didn't argue for a new Idol. It wasn't until a 2003 concert at Hammerstein Ballroom that Sanctuary Records approached Idol about making new music in his older style. That led to a three-album pact.

Billy Idol
Punk rocker

'Dr. J' rejects university trustee role

Basketball Hall of Famer Julius "Dr. J" Erving has turned down an offer to join the University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees after initially calling his appointment a "blessing."

Erving, who played for UMass-Amherst and the Philadelphia 76ers, did not attend any board meetings or take the oath of office as required within 90 days of his five-year appointment. Gov. Mitt Romney appointed him to the board in October and planned to reappoint him. But last week Erving told the governor's office he was not interested in the job.

A spokeswoman for Erving, who lives in Longwood, Fla., said he was not available for comment.

The board oversees operation of the 60,000-student system, selects the president and chancellors, approves academic programs, sets student tuition and fees, and awards



Erving

tenure.

American Idol winner sued by manager

Ruben Studdard's former manager is seeking \$500,000 in damages from the American Idol winner for allegedly failing to pay his management fees and not reimbursing him for expenses.

Ron Edwards' court filing on Friday in Birmingham, Ala., is a counterclaim to the lawsuit Studdard filed in February.

Studdard's suit claims Edwards and his Birmingham marketing and advertising firm, Sez Inc., misused \$246,000 in the year that he worked for Studdard. The suit also accuses Edwards of making unauthorized expenses after he was fired.

Edwards, 46, denied those allegations in his filing.

Edwards' attorney, Glenn Threatt, told the Birmingham News that his client and Studdard, 26, were longtime



Billy Idol performed Wednesday at the 2005 South by Southwest festival in Austin, Texas.

KRT

An '80s revival has since kicked into high gear. Motley Crue recently reunited for a sold-out arena tour, and Velvet Revolver brought the musicians from Guns N' Roses back to the top of the charts.

"Watching Slash (come back) gave me hope," Idol says of the Velvet guitarist. "It made me think, 'There's life after death.'"

Yet as a veteran performer seeking a return to the limelight, Idol knows he still has "a lot to prove. Now, I'm following up my own greatest hits," he says.

At least this onetime punk has discovered that 50 isn't fatal.

"It's not all over yet," he asserts. "Not so long as they've got Viagra."

family friends and that Edwards agreed to help Studdard for free before he won American Idol in May 2003.

Monkeying around on 'King Kong' set

Peter Jackson was one of those monkeying around during a party for the film crew remaking the classic movie "King Kong."

The remake of the 1933 classic by New Zealander Jackson, who directed the fantasy trilogy "Lord of the Rings," was likely to go into post-production within a couple of weeks, publicist Melissa Booth said Monday.

The weekend crew party on a back lot set built to replicate 1930s New York "was essentially our wrap party," she said.

Filming of the \$145 million remake, funded by Universal Pictures, began Sept. 6. The movie is due for release in December.

The cast includes Australian actor Naomi Watts, who plays dancel in distress Ann Darrow; Oscar winner Adrien Brody, the movie's romantic hero Jack Driscoll; and offbeat comedy actor Jack Black, who plays raconteur and filmmaker Carl Denham.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Studdard

Horoscope

Love planet Venus dances into Aries with a fanciful "Ta Da!" Some of you get the feeling you have arrived for the first time at love's gate and it opens wide. All the ways you've loved before now seem like puppy stuff. Try not to make rash promises. This too shall pass! Tonight, the moon enters Virgo, bringing our feet slightly closer to the Earth.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(March 22). Your boundless enthusiasm is so attractive this year that you'll attract many admirers. Next month shows you taking the steps necessary to make more money — better education is definitely part of the equation, Singles: The more you expand your mind, the better your love life becomes. Virgo and Libra are especially amorous partners.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

You're attracted to danger. Someone you like, though very gorgeous, is nonetheless messed up in the head. As the 1980s Poison song goes, "Every rose has its thorn." Decide up front what you can deal with these days.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

You know what it feels like to be close to someone in proximity and be miles apart on the inside. Instead of living with uncomfortable feelings, now is the time to bring them into the open. You're well received.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

You're the one who brings culture to the ignorant, good manners to the barbarians and taste to the yahoos. Accept your role, and take it seriously. Also take it humorously, fancifully and exuberantly.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

Why should one person suffer poverty while the world caters to another person's every whim? The injustice of the world strikes a chord deep in your soul, and you are moved to action.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's heroism in your actions. You're in a

position to protect those you love — and those you hardly know, too — from some plundering person who is used to taking things by force.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

You're offered the cream of the crop and should not feel one ounce of guilt about this. Take it! It's not every day you can eat your dessert first. Perhaps you can even forgo the vegetables altogether.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

You're so used to pulling others first, at no small cost to yourself, that you could now find out you've been storing up resentful feelings. You matter. Stand up, and be counted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

There are some things about your quirky personality that are difficult to explain. Perhaps a loved one will never understand your emotional attachment to a certain object, but ask for respect and tolerance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

Getting just the right mix of people together makes the difference between successful endeavor and a waste of time. Beware of a hyper-sensitive person who could change the dynamic of the whole group.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

Open to a little excitement? That's why you'll be sent off on some misadventure while others diligently slog away at the same old, same old. For your trouble, you'll have the best dinner-table story.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

Get rid of that habit you have that serves no purpose except to kill time. You've outgrown it. As far as friends who can make you feel terrific about yourself, a Capricorn or Aries is just what the doctor ordered.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Events this afternoon are almost burlesque in tone. Something silly may be treated with the utmost seriousness, or something serious is mocked with ridiculous levity. Either way, it's lively entertainment.

Creators Syndicate

Holiday Mathis



Calvin and Hobbes

What happened in Concord in 1775?



Let's be honest, you're asking me about Concord? I never got the bus driver to find an owner while from here, Concord could be the happiest place on earth.



And what happened 220 years ago? In 1783, I don't know what's going on, but I don't have a shield of content for any of this. It's hopeless, his grandson, Hobbes.



We both try to remember the exact other.



Jump Start

Benny! what have you done?



Sorry Boss. You ate part of my Great Pyramid!



I saw all those sugar cubes and I just had to eat two of 'em.



...so why are four cubes missing?



The Pyramids are shrouded in mystery.

Zits



Cathy



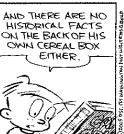
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red Rover



Better or Worse



Peanuts



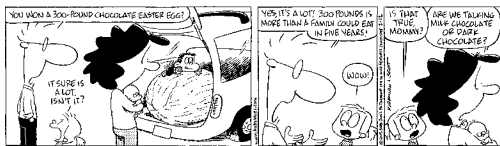
Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



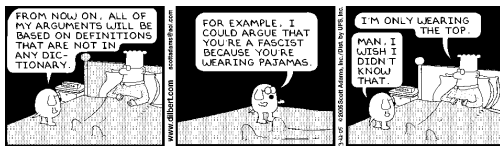
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



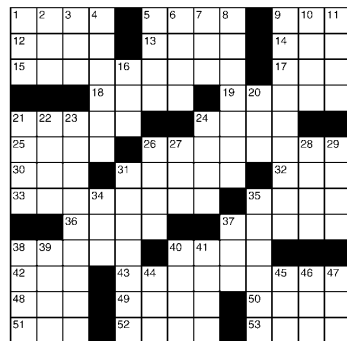
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Dagwood's neighbor
- 5 Greet the villain
- 9 Cistern
- 12 Finished
- 13 Persisting
- 14 "—Blue?"
- 15 Horseman
- 17 "Smoking or —?"
- 18 Move rapidly
- 19 Unstable
- 21 Red-ink entry
- 24 Picasso
- 25 Actor Julia
- 26 You and me, e.g.
- 30 Ninny
- 31 "Nothing —"
- 32 Compete
- 33 Maryland city
- 35 Denomination
- 36 Not counterfeit (abbr.)
- 37 Ankara people
- 38 Whom to cherish
- 40 Hamilton-Burr event
- 42 Commotion
- 43 Boutonniere, often
- 48 Gun the motor
- 49 Just one of those things?
- 50 Farm fraction
- 51 Indivisible
- 52 Type of palm
- 53 Requirement

Down

- 1 Ad — committee
- 2 Actress Longoria
- 3 C.S.A. soldier
- 4 Where the Xingu flows
- 5 Head light
- 6 Thing
- 7 Round Table address
- 8 Warehouse
- 9 Burrard Inlet city
- 10 Uncontrollable
- 11 Wee
- 12 Parcel of land
- 20 Acapulco gold
- 21 Hardly colorful
- 22 Facility
- 23 1989 rap hit
- 24 "— Lisa"
- 25 Swanly
- 27 Empty (of)
- 28 Shaving mishap
- 29 Collections
- 31 Spots
- 34 Drone
- 35 Bahrain bigwig
- 37 Earl Grey, for one
- 38 Gambling game
- 39 Paradise
- 40 Haul clumsily
- 41 Golden Rule word
- 44 "Eureka!"
- 45 Lemieux milieu
- 46 Raw rock
- 47 Homer's neighbor

Answer to Previous Puzzle



3-22

CRYPTOQUIP

H'KL MVQ RMHI TVDPL
IMVKHSP IYVD JFD QLYVQLI
RMVR H THOL RF DLJLD

RF VI "FTQ SHYO."
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOMEONE STOLE A SAUSAGE, CONCERNED PEOPLE COULD HELP LOOK FOR THE MISSING LINK.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals I

'Harmless' talk not so harmless

Dear Abby: In response to "Conversational Speaking," a reader who complained about being disrespected at restaurants, you suggested that the couple engage in some "wild dialogue" for entertainment purposes, such as "how to spend their drug money" or which girl you planned to send on the next "call."

As a police officer who has had to waste significant time and resources following up on such reports of "suspicious behavior," I'm surprised you would encourage such an irresponsible action. Our nation's homeland security is of paramount importance these days, and our governing leaders have requested help from the public in "remaining vigilant" and reporting suspicious behavior to the proper authorities.

Fifty lashes with a wet noodle



Dear Abby

to you for failing to consider the consequences of your ill-advised recommendation. What were you thinking?

— Dan Hoffman, Deputy Chief, Fairbanks (Alaska) Police Dept.

Dear Deputy Chief Hoffman: I was thinking about having some fun, not about home-land security.

In the light of the sober times we live in, however, I probably should have played it straighter. On a lighter note, quite a few readers wrote to describe how they have handled the situation. Read on for a couple samples:

Dear Abby: I had the same experience. Since everyone at my table was in the medical field, I began describing an extremely grisly autopsy I had been involved in. Within five minutes, the couple at the nearby table had paid their bill and left their food. While they

may have not been "cured" of listening, they certainly got their "dose" of reality.

— Stephen in the Woodlands, Texas

Dear Stephen: Your cavedrops must not have been fans of the currently popular TV crime series and their spin-offs.

Dear Abby: My husband and I have a suggestion. Talk about "Aunt Tilly's" recent operation with details so graphic that only the strongest stomach could hold its contents. Or, perhaps, mention "Cousin Mandy's" little boy throwing up on the wedding cake at someone's reception.

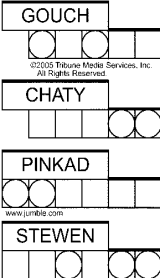
— Margaret in Swoope, VA.

Dear Margaret: That could, indeed, work.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69446, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer: "GOUCH" "CHATY" "PINKAD" "STEWEN" IT

(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: OLDER TWEAK FANISH EFFORT
Answer: Why the door-to-door salesman was spurned — HE "ASKED" FOR IT

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Prostitute visits devastate wife

Dear Annie: This letter is for the men in your reading audience. I have been married to "Buddy" for over 20 years. I thought we had a satisfying, wonderful sex life, but Buddy recently told me about several encounters he's had with prostitutes.

I am devastated, sad, angry, hurt — you name it. He has tremendous remorse, regret and guilt. We are contemplating staying together and working through all of the layers of pain that such betrayal causes. I don't know if I can do it, but I want to try.

I am so hurt and so afraid that those sexual experiences have diminished what we had. I'm fearful Buddy will remember the "talents" of these women, not to mention their youth and bodies, and compare me unfavorably. I'm attractive and thought I was plenty adventuresome, willing and provocative in bed. I was certainly satisfied. He certainly satisfied me.

Buddy has had zillions of disap-



Annie's Mailbox

pointments in his life and suffers from low self-esteem. My question is for men who have strayed with prostitutes. Did you find yourself comparing them to your wives? Were you not content at home?

— Needing to Know Dear Whopper: Have you asked Buddy these questions? Although

some men may choose prostitutes because they are unhappy at home, we suspect that is not the case here. First, you are doing yourself a disservice. Prostitutes are not necessarily young or attractive. They are simply willing and non-judgmental. Does Buddy have a fetish or sexual proclivity that he doesn't want you to know about? We are glad you are getting counseling, and we hope you have been checked for sexually transmitted diseases. If we receive any responses to your questions, we will let you know.

Dear Annie: I like fast food. However, there is one facet that I have never seen addressed: the use of sesame seeds on the buns of fast-food sandwiches. Evidently, some purveyors of such food have never felt the agony of having one of these seeds caught beneath dentures. I'd bet these seeds compensate for the lack of ability in making buns — they cover a lot of mistakes.

— A Whopper of a McWhopper in a Bog

Dear Whopper: Most fast-food places are trying to please their customers by offering a wider variety of menu items. We spoke to Joe Gerbino at Burger King and Antonio Hernandez at McDonald's. Both said their companies try hard to accommodate their customers. They suggested explaining to the server that you cannot eat sesame seeds and asking for another type of bun.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

Family Circus



Jeff and Jim Kinkadee

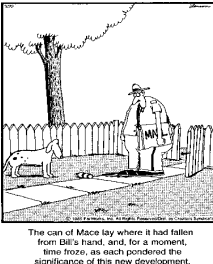


Dennis the Menace



© Gary Larson

The Far Side



The can of Mace lay where it had fallen from Bill's hand, and for a moment, time froze, as each pondered the significance of this new development.

Non Sequitur



"I DON'T KNOW WHY IT'S QUADRUPLY SUCH A BIG DEAL. WE'VE BEEN PENALIZING CAPITAL SECURITY CHECKS FOR DECADES..."

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SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

Tuesday

AFN-Sports, 3 p.m. Motor Racing: Champ-Off Road Racing Bar River Road
AFN-Sports, 3 p.m. Wrestling: NCAA Division I Wrestling
AFN-Sports, 3:30 p.m. Auto racing: Nextel Cup Golden Coast 500 (dlt)
AFN-Sports, 7 p.m. Baseball: Spring training, Atlanta vs. N.Y. Mets.

Wednesday

AFN-Sports, 1 a.m. College basketball: Net women's tournament, second round doubleheader, teams TBD
AFN-Radio, 1:30 a.m. College basketball: Net 2nd round, teams TBD (dlt)
AFN-Sports, 6 p.m. College basketball: Net 2nd round, teams TBD (dlt)
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m. Radio: Miami/Houston finals (dlt)
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m. Radio: Roadshow/Houston finals (dlt)
AFN-Sports, 1 p.m. College basketball: Net second round, teams TBD (dlt)
AFN-Sports, 6 p.m. College basketball: Net 2nd round, teams TBD (dlt)
AFN-Sports, 7 p.m. Baseball: Spring training, Chicago Cubs vs. Arizona.

All times are Central European Time. It indicates whether listings. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.afn.net for more information.

Baseball

Spring Training glance

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
Toronto	10	5	1st
Minnesota	10	5	2nd
Tampa Bay	10	6	3rd
Los Angeles	10	6	4th
Chicago	10	5	5th
Seattle	10	5	6th
Baltimore	8	5	7th
Oakland	8	5	8th
Boston	7	4	9th
San Francisco	7	4	10th
Minnesota	7	4	11th
Los Angeles	7	4	12th
Texas	6	3	13th

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
New York	11	5	1st
San Francisco	12	6	2nd
St. Louis	12	6	3rd
San Diego	10	5	4th
Washington	9	5	5th
Arizona	9	5	6th
Philadelphia	9	5	7th
Chicago	9	5	8th
San Diego	9	5	9th
Los Angeles	9	5	10th
Houston	9	5	11th
Los Angeles	9	5	12th

Notes: Split-squad games occur in the standings; games against non-major league teams are in parentheses.

Sunday's games			
Boston @ Florida	1	2	3
Cincinnati @ Detroit	1	2	3
Minnesota @ Texas	1	2	3
St. Louis @ Seattle	1	2	3
San Francisco @ Tampa Bay	1	2	3
Los Angeles @ Cleveland	1	2	3
Washington @ L.A. Dodgers	1	2	3
San Diego @ St. Louis	1	2	3
N.Y. Mets @ L.A. Dodgers	1	2	3
Philadelphia @ Milwaukee	1	2	3
Oakland @ St. Francisco	1	2	3
San Diego @ Arizona	1	2	3
Colorado @ Kansas City	1	2	3
San Diego @ Chicago Cubs	1	2	3
Florida @ Chicago White Sox	1	2	3
San Diego @ St. Louis	1	2	3

Monday's games			
Florida @ Washington	1	2	3
St. Louis @ Atlanta	1	2	3
Philadelphia @ St. Louis	1	2	3
Tampa Bay @ Cincinnati	1	2	3
Seattle @ Cincinnati	1	2	3
San Francisco @ San Diego	1	2	3
Arizona @ San Francisco	1	2	3
Arizona @ Chicago White Sox	1	2	3
Arizona @ Detroit	1	2	3
Cleveland @ N.Y. Yankees	1	2	3
Seattle @ Colorado	1	2	3

Tuesday's games			
L.A. Dodgers @ Florida	1	2	3
Washington @ Houston	1	2	3
Pittsburgh @ Bradenton	1	2	3
Tampa Bay @ Baltimore	1	2	3
Atlanta vs. N.Y. Mets	1	2	3
Philadelphia vs. N.Y. Yankees	1	2	3
Oakland vs. Chicago Cubs	1	2	3
Seattle vs. Chicago White Sox	1	2	3
Arizona vs. Boston	1	2	3
San Francisco vs. San Diego	1	2	3

College basketball

National Invitation Tournament

First Round			
Monday, March 14	1	2	3
Western Michigan	1	2	3

Tuesday, March 15
 Holy Cross 78, Notre Dame 73
 South Carolina 89, Miami 67
 Virginia Tech 60, Temple 50
 Ohio State 78, Missouri 70

Wednesday, March 16
 Texas Christian 69, Miami 58
 Georgetown 64, Boston 34
 Memphis 89, Northeastern 78
 Vanderbilt 67, Indiana 66
 Arizona 88, Creighton 77
 Maryland 85, Ohio State 77
 Texas 85, Kentucky 77

Thursday, March 17
 UNLV 88, Arizona 78
 Cal State Fullerton 88, San Francisco 69
 Davidson 69, Missouri State 71
 St. Joseph's 55, Buffalo 50

Friday, March 18
 Wake Forest 71, Georgetown 61
 Wichita State 64, Western Kentucky 51
 Memphis 83, Cincinnati 77
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 Texas 85, DePaul 77

Saturday, March 19
 Texas Christian 69 (13) at Western Michigan 69 (23)
 Holy Cross 75 (25) at Saint Joseph's 71 (11)
 Wichita State 62 (23) at Vanderbilt 58 (13)
Sunday, March 20
 Memphis 83 (20) at Georgetown 81 (21)
 UNLV 71 (13) at South Carolina 116 (13)
 Texas Christian 69 (13) at Western Michigan 69 (23)
 Davidson 23 (8) at Maryland 17 (12)

Men's NCAA Div. II tournament

Quarterfinals
Wednesday, March 23
 Virginia 23 (4) vs. Mount Union 29 (4)
 Tarkenton State 24 (4) vs. Virginia Polytechnic 24 (4)
 Metro State 29 (3) vs. Virginia Tech 27 (4)
 Lynn 28 (5) at Florida 33 (5)

Semifinals
Thursday, March 24
 Virginia Polytechnic vs. Tarkenton State
 Cal Poly Pomona vs. Lynn/Findlay winner

Championship, March 25
 Virginia Polytechnic vs. Lynn/Findlay winner

Men's NAIA Div. I tournament

Quarterfinals
Wednesday, March 23
 Carroll, Mont. 67, St. Xavier 57
 Robert Morris-Chicago vs. Georgetown, Ky. 87
 Arizona State 62, Mountain St. 66
 John Brown 58, Biola 56

Semifinals
Thursday, March 24
 John Brown vs. Biola
 Arizona State vs. Mountain St.

Championship, March 25
 John Brown vs. Biola

Women's NIT
Second Round
Wednesday, March 23
 Kentucky 91, Chattanooga 60
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, March 24
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, March 25
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, March 26
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, March 27
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, March 28
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, March 29
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, March 30
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, March 31
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, April 1
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, April 2
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, April 3
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, April 4
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, April 5
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, April 6
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

Championship, April 7
 Texas A&M 83, Texas Tech 62
 South Florida 70, Virginia 68
 UNLV 71, Arizona State 68
 Florida 69, Houston 64
 Los Angeles 69, Houston 64

12. (42) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 325, 387.175
 13. (14) Jeremy Mayfield, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 14. (14) Ryan Newman, Dodge, 325, 310.266
 15. (14) Jeff Burton, Chevrolet, 325, 309.120
 16. (39) Sterling Marlin, Dodge, 325, 309.120

Friday, March 18
 17. (9) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 325, 387.175
 18. (16) Mike Wallace, Chevrolet, 325, 387.175
 19. (16) Casey Mears, Chevrolet, 325, 387.175
 20. (13) Scott Wimmer, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 21. (9) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 325, 387.175

Saturday, March 19
 22. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 23. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 24. (16) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 325, 387.175
 25. (10) Jason Leffler, Chevrolet, 325, 387.175

Sunday, March 20
 26. (18) Ken Schrader, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 27. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 28. (40) Jeff Green, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 29. (12) Jimmy Spencer, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 30. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175

Monday, March 21
 31. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 32. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 33. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 34. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 35. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Tuesday, March 22
 36. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 37. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 38. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 39. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 40. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Wednesday, March 23
 41. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 42. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 43. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 44. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 45. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Thursday, March 24
 46. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 47. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 48. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 49. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 50. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Friday, March 25
 51. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 52. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 53. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 54. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 55. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Saturday, March 26
 56. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 57. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 58. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 59. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 60. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Sunday, March 27
 61. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 62. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 63. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 64. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 65. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Monday, March 28
 66. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 67. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 68. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 69. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 70. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Tuesday, March 29
 71. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 72. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 73. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 74. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 75. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Wednesday, March 30
 76. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 77. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 78. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 79. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 80. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Thursday, March 31
 81. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 82. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 83. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 84. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 85. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Friday, April 1
 86. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 87. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 88. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 89. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 90. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Saturday, April 2
 91. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 92. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 93. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 94. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 95. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Sunday, April 3
 96. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 97. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 98. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 99. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 100. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Monday, April 4
 101. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 102. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 103. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 104. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 105. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Tuesday, April 5
 106. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 107. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 108. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 109. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 110. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Wednesday, April 6
 111. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 112. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 113. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 114. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 115. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Thursday, April 7
 116. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 117. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 118. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 119. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 120. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Friday, April 8
 121. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 122. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 123. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 124. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 125. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Saturday, April 9
 126. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 127. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 128. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 129. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 130. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Sunday, April 10
 131. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 132. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 133. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 134. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 135. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Monday, April 11
 136. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 137. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 138. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 139. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 140. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Tuesday, April 12
 141. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175
 142. (13) Ricky Rudd, Ford, 325, 387.175
 143. (12) Rusty Wallace, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 144. (14) Bill Elliott, Dodge, 325, 387.175
 145. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325, 387.175

Wednesday, April 13
 146. (14) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325,

Summitt on verge of reaching top

Lady Vols coach ties Dean Smith with 879th career victory

BY ELIZABETH A. DAVIS
The Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Pat Summitt would rather count the number of players, assistants and friends she's had during her 31 years at Tennessee than all the victories.

Summitt tied former North Carolina men's coach Dean Smith for the most victories in NCAA history — 879 — as Tennessee beat Western Carolina 94-43 on Sunday night in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

"It's really not about a number," Summitt said. "It's about people — the people here at the university, the administration, all the great assistant coaches I've had, the loyal people who have stuck by me for years, the people I work with in the office and certainly all the players."

"When you think about women's basketball, we have a list of who's who — All-Americans, Olympians and people of impact in this game."

Summitt has a chance to surpass Smith with top-seeded Tennessee (27-4) faces Purdue in the second round Tuesday night, with the winner advancing to the regional semifinals in Philadelphia. Summitt is 879-171; Smith was 879-254 in 36 years with the Tar Heels.

Tennessee senior Shyra Ely said Smith was glad to be part of Summitt's victories.

"I just think it's huge not only for women's basketball, but college basketball," Ely said. "I think it's awesome that she's representing the entire basketball nation."

Coincidentally, Western Carolina's coach was around for a good chunk of Summitt's victories. Kellie Harper was the point guard on Tennessee's three



Tennessee coach Pat Summitt talks with guard Alexis Hornbuckle during Sunday's first-round NCAA tournament game against Western Carolina in Knoxville, Tenn. Tennessee defeated Western Carolina 94-43.

straight national title teams from 1996-98.

"Pat Summitt is huge for the women's basketball game," Harper said. "She's been a pioneer, a legacy, a legend — all of those adjectives. And now, her tying Dean Smith allows her legacy to move over to basketball, not just women's basketball, and I think a person like Pat Summitt needs to be a legend in the game of basketball."

Harper received a standing ovation when she walked onto the court, but couldn't do much to help her team stay with the Lady Vols.

The 16th-seeded Catamounts

(18-14) were underseeded and out-matched from the beginning.

The Lady Vols increased the lead to 19-8 with 13:47 left before halftime, and had a 19-2 run that gave them a 29-point advantage with 4½ minutes left in the first half. The margin hit 49 on Brittany Jackson's three-pointer with 12:36 to go.

Shanna Zolman tied a career high with 28 points, Ely had 12 points and 10 rebounds and Alex- Chevon Keith and Monique Dawson each had nine points to

lead the Catamounts, who won the Southern Conference tournament to earn the school's first NCAA bid.

Summitt, who tops all women's coaches with an 86-17 NCAA tournament record, began coaching at age 22 when teams didn't offer scholarships. She's been at the top of the women's game for years with six national titles and 15 Final Four appearances.

Summitt tied Smith on Tennessee's home court at Thompson-Boling Arena, where the Lady Vols are 252-14 since it opened in 1987. Tennessee has never lost an NCAA game in Knoxville, going 45-0 since the women's tournament began in 1982.

Liberty women upset Penn State

for first NCAA tournament victory

BY DAVID GINSBURG
The Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Put the team bus in the garage, and keep it there until at least Tuesday.

For the first time in school history, Liberty won't be going home after its first round of the NCAA tournament.

The Flames outshouted and outplayed perennial powerhouse Penn State in a 78-70 upset Sunday night, taking control with a 16-1 run, and then holding on with a 21-point performance at the free-throw line.

It was only the fourth time in tournament history that a 13th seed defeated a No. 4 seed, and this one could not have been more improbable.

Liberty (25-6) was 0-8 in the tournament, and this was the first

time in four tries that Penn State failed to reach the Sweet 16 as a No. 4 seed.

"We've been trying to get this one for nine games," Flames coach Carey Green said. "It's been a process. This happens to be the No. 1 greatest win in our history."

Katie Feenstra had 22 points and 11 rebounds and Rima Margueviciute contributed 18 points and 12 rebounds for the Big South champions, who will next face DePaul (26-4) on Tuesday night.

Penn State (19-11) lost in the opening round for the first time in four appearances since 2001. The Nittany Lions shot 37 percent from the floor and were outrebounded 39-35.

"We're certainly disappointed because it's not the end of the season that we anticipated," said Penn State coach Rene Portland, who was denied a 23rd season

with at least 20 points. "I want to thank our seniors for a great run; it's hard on them because their season is over and their time at Penn State is over."

No one on the team expected to lose to a Liberty squad that last month lost at home against High Point.

"I'm extremely disappointed. We never wanted to go out this way," said Penn State senior guard Tanisha Wright, who scored 19 but went 5-for-19 from the field. "They just wanted it more than we did, and it showed. They got a ton of offensive rebounds, and we just didn't do it right. We had the opportunities."

Allison Fasnacht scored 18 for the Flames, who have won six straight and 18 of 19. Liberty made only two baskets in the final 7:59, but sank 13 free throws — including eight of their last nine — during that span.



Liberty's Katie Feenstra, right, and Rima Margueviciute celebrate their 78-70 win over Penn State on Sunday in College Park, Md.

"I like to show people what our team is made of and what we're capable of doing," Feenstra said. "I don't think that it's sunk in yet. I'm still a little jittery. I'm so happy. We've wanted this so bad for so many years."

The Flames never trailed after using a 16-1 run early in the second half to take a 43-35 lead. Margueviciute made two three-pointers in the surge, and Feenstra had five points.



Women's NCAA tournament

PHILADELPHIA REGIONAL

First Round

Saturday, March 19

At Reliant Arena

Baylor

Middle Tennessee State 60, North Carolina State 50

Texas Tech 69, Texas-Arlington 49

Sunday, March 20

Purdue 68, New Mexico 50

Tennessee 94, Western Carolina 43

Temple 66, Louisiana Tech 61

Rutgers 62, Hartford 37

Ohio State 66, Holy Cross 45

Mayland 65, Wisconsin-Green Bay 55

Second Round

Monday, March 21

Middle Tennessee State (24-8) vs. Texas Tech (23-7)

Tennessee (27-4) vs. Purdue (17-12)

Temple (23-9) vs. Rutgers (11)

Mayland (22-9) vs. Ohio State (29-4)

Semifinals

Middle Tennessee State/Texas Tech vs. Tennessee/Purdue

Temple/Rutgers vs. Mayland/Ohio State

Tuesday, March 22

Champion/Runner-up

CHATTANOOGA REGIONAL

First Round

Saturday, March 19

Texas 64, Wake Forest 47

Georgia 75, Rice 49

Sunday, March 20

Arizona 72, Oklahoma 69

LSU 70, Stetson 59

DePaul 79, Virginia Tech 78

Liberty 78, Penn State 70

Duke 80, Carolina 48

Boston College 65, Houston 43

Second Round

Monday, March 21

Georgia (22-9) vs. Texas Tech (25)

Tuesday, March 22

LSU (20-21) vs. Arizona (21)

DePaul (24-6) vs. Liberty (24-6)

Boston College (40-9) vs. Duke (29-4)

Semifinals

Saturday, March 20

LSU/Arizona vs. DePaul/Liberty

Georgia/Duke vs. Boston College

Tuesday, March 22

Champion/Runner-up

KANSAS CITY REGIONAL

First Round

Saturday, March 19

Southern Illinois 65, Louisville 49

Michigan State 73, Alcorn State 41

Stanford 94, Santa Clara 57

North Carolina 67, Montana 60

Connecticut 67, Montana 44

Florida State 57, Richmond 54

Second Round

Monday, March 21

Michigan State (29-3) vs. Southern California (20-10)

Utah (26-7) vs. Stanford (30-2)

Vanderbilt (23-7) vs. Kansas State (24-7)

Tuesday, March 22

Florida State (24-7) vs. Connecticut (24-7)

Semifinals

Sunday, March 21

Michigan State/Southern California vs. Vanderbilt/Kansas State

Fla. State/Connecticut vs. Utah/Stanford

Tuesday, March 22

Champion/Runner-up

TEXAS REGIONAL

First Round

Saturday, March 19

Virginia 75, Old Dominion 57

Minnesota 64, St. Francis, Pa. 33

Arizona State 87, Eastern Kentucky 65

Notre Dame 61, UC Santa Barbara 51

Baylor 31, Illinois State 78

Oregon 58, Texas Christian 55

Sunday, March 20

North Carolina 97, Coppin State 62

Georgia Washington 65, Mississippi 57

Second Round

Sunday, March 21

Virginia (21-10) vs. Minnesota (25-7)

Arizona State (19-9) vs. Notre Dame (27-5)

Oregon (21-9) vs. Baylor (30-3)

Tuesday, March 22

North Carolina (28-3) vs. Georgia Washington (23-4)

Semifinals

Saturday, March 20

North Carolina/Georgia Washington vs. Arizona State/Notre Dame

Virginia/Minnesota vs. Oregon/Baylor

Champion/Runner-up

THE FINAL FOUR

At RCA Dome

Sunday, April 3

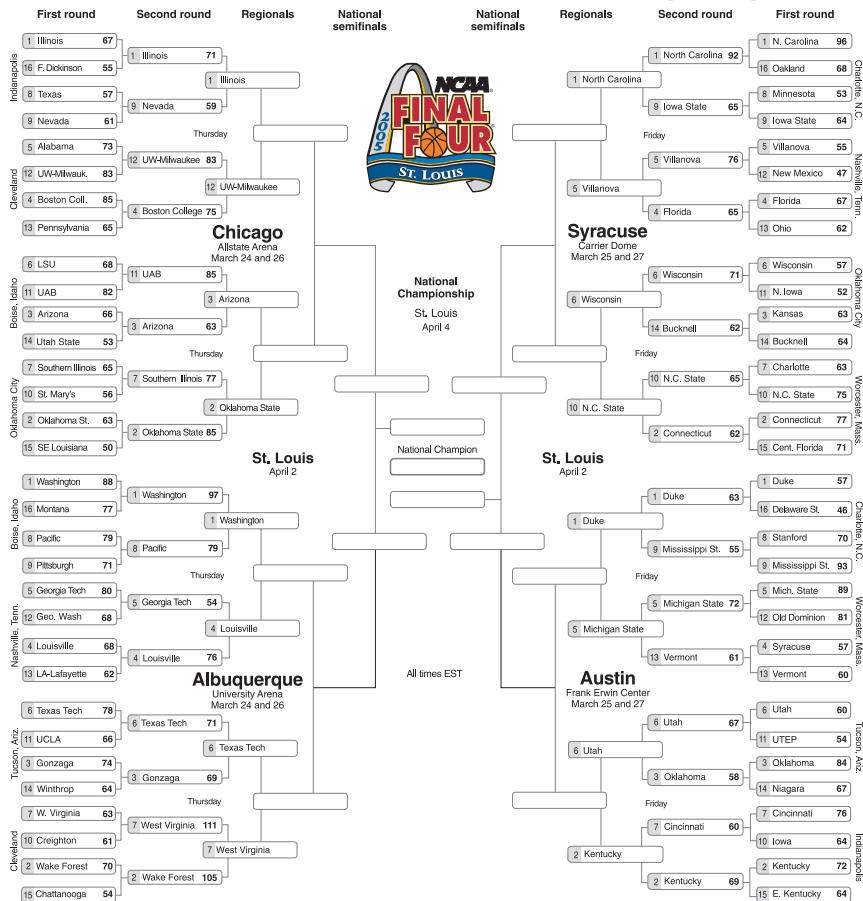
Chattanooga Regional champion vs. Arizona State Regional champion

Philadelphia Regional champion vs. Kansas City Regional champion

Tuesday, April 5

Champion/Runner-up

2005 NCAA Division I men's basketball championship



Fine: Dreams come true in early rounds of NCAA tournament

FINE, FROM BACK PAGE

The Fine Madness is predicated on dreams. So while a Kansas is very likely going to beat a Bucknell 99 out of 100 times, that one time when Bucknell might rise up, well, you have lived to see it even though it took more than a century, that being how long Bucknell went before winning its first NCAA tournament game.

The Ultimate Dream, a No. 16 seed topping a No. 1, has yet to be realized, but one day... maybe.

The usual fate for those doing the upsetting is to expire the next game. It is too diffi-

cult, too demanding, to keep playing beyond your capabilities. Plus, letdowns after an upset are understandable and all but unavoidable.

But for one night, Vermont can beat Syracuse, and Wisconsin-Milwaukee can beat BC, and N.C. State can beat UConn, and Bucknell can set fire to Kansas.

And West Virginia can eliminate Wake Forest even if it means playing until half past June. Double overtime. A classic. Wake scores 105 and loses.

The Fine Madness, indeed.

Sometimes, it even casts a person in a different light.

Which brings us to the tyrant, Robert Montgomery Knight. It's been a long time since Bob Knight was in the public prints for how often his basketball teams were winning. He was as irascible as ever, but in the NCAA tournament, which once was his private preserve, he was evicted early and often.

Time, age, circumstances had all overtaken him, it seemed. His critics, ahem, had to conceal their glee when he kept getting eliminated. And then on Thursday Texas Tech beat UCLA and followed up Saturday with a 71-69 victory over Gonzaga. Knight is back in the round of 16.

After the win over Gonzaga, he dispatched his son, Pat, into the stands to escort to the court Knight's wife, Karen, so that the coach could publicly acknowledge her and her real and meaningful contributions to the team. She came to him in unashamed tears, and as they stood there, embraced, it was not possible to look upon that and be unmoved.

It was touching and it was tender. Suddenly, Bob Knight looked eminently human.

The Fine Madness at work.

Bill Lyon is a columnist for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

Pittsogle's plea: 'Keep me out, Coach'

He'd rather sit and win than play and have NCAA ride end

By PAUL ZEISE
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Center Kevin Pittsogle is one of the top players for West Virginia. He was the Mountaineers' No. 3 scorer during the season and one of the team's go-to players at the end of games.

Yet, throughout most of the second half and two overtimes of the Mountaineers' second-round 111-105 upset against Wake Forest last Saturday, Pittsogle sat on the bench and watched reserve center D'or Fischer take his spot on the floor.

Pittsogle did not complain. In fact, he was quite happy about it. He encouraged his coaches to continue to allow Fischer to play because he believed that was what was best for the team.

"I told coaches to keep D'or in there," Pittsogle said. "Who would it do if I were in there and we lost? What fun would that be? He was a better matchup for us and he did a great job. I'm so happy for him. I'm so happy for this team."

"I've had plenty of opportunities to play and I'll have plenty more. This is a win or lose. I wouldn't have any more because we'd all be going home."

There are plenty of reasons the Mountaineers (23-10) are headed to the Sweet 16—they face Texas



Kevin Pittsogle (34) dribbles past Wake Forest's Eric Williams during the first half of West Virginia's double-overtime upset of the Deacons.

Tech on Thursday night — but perhaps the most important one is the players' unselfish attitude.

The Mountaineers' individual parts may not stand out — although Wake Forest coach Skip

Prosser said it is incorrect to believe the Mountaineers don't have a lot of talented players — but the sum of the parts certainly has stood out in the past two weeks, starting with WVU's

three-game run to the Big East tournament final.

"This is a special team, one of the most special teams I've ever been on," forward Mike Gansey said. "We have a great coaching staff and we all just work together. I don't think I've been on a team that plays together as well as we do. Every one of us may have different abilities and talents, but all of us do whatever it takes to win — and that includes maybe deferring some of our playing time to someone else if they are doing a better job."

"I know (Saturday) I scored a lot but one man doesn't make a team or a win. I'm really more happy for our seniors than for anyone because they get to play one more game, which means this team will be together for at least one more game."

West Virginia coach John Beilein, whose system relies on teamwork and unselfish play, said that some of his players didn't understand the concept earlier in the season and that led to some of the team's struggles.

He said Pittsogle's comments reflect a person who has matured and now understands what it truly means to be a team player.

"It is very hard when you have a team with all of those high school stars," Beilein said. "You have to figure out a way to fit in. Everyone has to know their role. J.D. (Collins) and Kevin struggled with that throughout the year. When we realized that (even though it is a role) it made us a very good team."

Fischer, who had 15 points, 10 rebounds and three blocked shots while helping to sub out Wake Forest's superb center Eric Williams,

said he wasn't surprised by Pittsogle's comments because they capture the spirit of what makes this team tick.

"If it were on the bench and Kevin in the game, I'd say the same thing," Fischer said. "Who cares about individual stuff if the team loses? Kevin has carried us a lot this year but tonight it was just my time to step up."

"Next game, it will be someone else. That's what makes us tough to beat."

"I think the most important thing coach Beilein tells us all is to be ready. Be ready to make a play and be ready to make a difference when it is your turn. That's what it takes to win."

Fischer also pointed out the second part of the story. Only minutes after Fischer fouled out in the second overtime, Pittsogle stepped in and hit the three-pointer that put Wake Forest away.

After Wake Forest trailed West Virginia's lead to 100-96, the Mountaineers worked the ball around to Pittsogle, who stepped up and hit a three-pointer from the deep corner to push the lead to 103-96 with 2:30 to play. The shot seemed to deflate the Demon Deacons for good.

"What good would pointing do?" Pittsogle said. "I knew I had to be ready to go in, and once I went in I knew I had to do what I do: shoot."

"It just goes to show if you play as a team, put the team first, good things happen. You know you'll get your chance. I got mine and I was just glad I could help the team win. But that doesn't make me a star. It just makes me another guy in this locker room."

"We're in this thing together. We always have been and we always will be."

Durham, 67, retires after 633 wins, two Fina Fours

The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Jacksonville's Hugh Durham retired Monday, the school announced, ending a 45-year coaching career during which he took two schools to the NCAA tournament's Final Four.

Durham, 67, retired with a career record of 633-429 (.596) after his final team finished 16-13. He's 25th on the career victory list.

Durham was 106-119 in eight seasons at Jacksonville following stints at Florida State, where he was 230-95 from 1960 to 1978, and Georgia, where he was 297-215 from 1979 to 1995.

He took Florida State to the NCAA title game in 1972, losing to UCLA, and Georgia to the semifinals in 1983, falling to eventual champion North Carolina State.

Racing hall nominates 20

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. — Jockey Jose Santos and Eddie Maple, trainer Nick Zito and 1997 Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Silver Charm lead the class of nominees for induction into the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame.

Santos, a four-time national

leader in earnings, helped propel Funny Cide onto the national scene in 2003, riding to victories in the Kentucky Derby and Preakness before his shot at the Triple Crown fell short in the Belmont. Santos has also ridden six Breeders' Cup winners.

Maple has more than 4,000 career victories, including two Belmonts. He was also in the saddle for the famed Secretariat's final race, a 6½-length victory in the Canadian International in 1973. Regular rider Ron Turcotte was serving a suspension.

Zito trained Birdstone to a Belmont victory last year, adding the final leg of the career Triple Crown to his earlier Kentucky Derby victories with Strike the Gold (1991) and Go for Gin (1994) and a Preakness victory with Louis Quatorze (1996).

The 2005 slate is the first selected of using rules similar to the Baseball Hall of Fame. The 163 voters will pick up to three finalists in each category. To be inducted, an individual must be named on at least 75 percent of ballots received. If more than one nominee reaches 75 percent, the one with the higher percentage will be the sole inductee in that category. If no candidate receives 75 percent, the category will not have an inductee this year.

Mayor says London second to Paris in 2012 chase

LONDON — London Mayor Ken Livingstone claims the British capital is assured of at least 25 votes in the first round of voting July 6 to pick the host city of the 2012 Olympics.

During its meeting in Singapore, the International Olympic Committee will pick a host from among Paris, New York, Madrid, Moscow and London, capping the highest-profile bidding battle in Olympic history.

Livingstone, a key booster of London's bid, said Paris remains the front-runner. "At most, Paris has got about 30 votes," Livingstone said Monday during a BBC radio interview. "We have 25 votes and none of the other cities has more than 20, and we've got about 30 to 40 delegates yet to express an opinion."

The full IOC assembly will vote by secret ballot. As many as 117 members should be eligible.

The city receiving the fewest number of votes will be eliminated in the first round. Voting continues until one city achieves a majority. The key to victory is picking up votes in the second and third rounds.

Livingstone didn't say where he got his information. It's unusu-

al for bid officials to speak publicly about voting figures, and most IOC members don't give away their intentions.

"We've closed the gap on Paris, but the truth is, Paris is still ahead," he said. "No city is close to a majority on the final ballot."

Paris bid committee member on trial

PARIS — A member of Paris' Olympic bid committee was among 47 people who went on trial Monday in a major political corruption case.

Guy Druet, an IOC member and former French sports minister, is accused in a party funding scandal dating to the 1990s. Druet, one of four former ministers charged, denies wrongdoing.

The case centers on a secret deal under which companies allegedly funneled millions of dollars in kickbacks to France's major political parties in exchange for contracts to build and renovate schools. Druet is accused of receiving thousands in kickbacks from 1990 to 1993.

The Paris bid committee had no comment on the case Monday, committee spokesman Jerome Lentant said.

The IOC's Jean Jacques Rogge and the IOC ethics commission have been aware of the case for at

least seven months, IOC spokeswoman Giselle Davies said.

Druet, the 1976 Olympic champion on the 110-meter hurdles, was sports minister from 1995-97 and has been an IOC member since 1996.

WADA would appeal Greek sprinters' exoneration

PARIS — The head of the World Anti-Doping Agency would appeal the Greek decision to clear sprinters Kostas Kentaris and Katerina Thanou of evading drug tests if the sport's governing body doesn't take such an action.

WADA chief Dick Pound said Monday he would take the case to the Court of Arbitration for Sport if the International Association of Athletics Federations doesn't contest the ruling.

Kentaris and Thanou were exonerated by the Greek track and field federation last Friday of doping after tests from the last summer's Athens Olympics. They still face criminal charges related to the missed drug test and a motorcycle accident they allegedly faked to avoid the test.

The IAAF expressed surprise at the decision and said its doping review board will study the ruling. The IAAF can accept the verdict, or reject it and appeal to CAS.

Williams, Mondesi heal; Mets deal

The Associated Press

The New York Yankees' Bernie Williams and Atlanta's Raul Mondesi would be out a short time with injuries. The New York Mets acquired Kazuhisa Ishii to replace Steve Trachsel, who's expected to be out a few months.

Williams strained his upper back during batting practice Sunday before the New York Yankees lost 5-3 to the Tampa Bay Devil Rays at St. Petersburg, Fla., and is expected to miss at least a couple games.

"Hopefully, it's nothing serious," manager Joe Torre said. "He'll get treatment. That's all that's planned right now. We'll have to wait until tomorrow to see what it feels like."

The Yankees were also without Derek Jeter, who bruised his left foot on a foul ball Saturday. He was sure Sunday, but X-rays were negative.

At Kissimmee, Fla., Mondesi injured his hamstring while running out a double during the Atlanta Braves' 2-1 loss to a St. Louis Cardinals split squad. The right fielder is expected to miss at least a few games, but plans to be ready for opening day.

"The doctor says one week at the most," Mondesi said.

At Port St. Lucie, Fla., with Trachsel out 3-6 months following back surgery, the Mets traded reserve catcher Jason Phillips to the Los Angeles Dodgers for the left-handed Ishii. Ishii will step into the No. 5 spot in the rotation behind Pedro Martinez, Tom Glavine, Kris Benson and Victor Zambrano.

"We were able to get a guy who has won. And I like having two lefties in the rotation. It gives us good balance," Mets general manager Omar Minaya said.

Ishii went 13-8 with a 4.71 ERA in 31 starts last season for Los Angeles. Often erratic, he walked 98 batters in 172 innings. He is 36-25 with a 4.30 ERA in three seasons with the Dodgers since coming over from Japan. At Winter Haven, Fla., Philadelphia outfielder Marlon Byrd and catcher Mike Lieberthal were injured during a 9-7 loss to the Cleveland Indians. Byrd dislocated his right elbow while swinging to first on a fly ball. Lieberthal was hit on the left elbow by a pitch in the first inning and was replaced in the fifth after he experienced some dizziness. He's expected to return to the lineup Tuesday or Wednesday.

Jon Lieber, outfielder Jake Westbrook in a matchup of opening day starters, but Travis Hafner hit a three-run homer in the eighth for Cleveland.

In other spring training games:



Seattle's Randy Winn tries in vain to catch a homer by Arizona's Troy Glaus on Sunday.

Mets (5), Dodgers (5) 9: At Port St. Lucie, Pedro Martinez pitched five innings and Eric Valent hit a three-run homer in the ninth to win it. New York closer Brandon Loper blew his second save in three days.

Mets (5), Orioles (1) 4: At Port Landerdale, Fla., Andres Galarraga and Ramon Castano homered for New York. Winning pitcher Mike Ginter allowed one hit and an unearned run in four innings.

Twins 7, Tigers (5) 5: At Fort Myers, Fla., Totti Hunter and Michael Cuddyer homered for Minnesota, which played nearly all its regulars and finished with 14 hits.

Blue Jays 4, Reds 1: At Dunedin, Fla., Josh Towers pitched five innings for Toronto, allowing one run and five hits.

Astros 6, Marlins 3: At Jupiter, Fla., Florida right-hander Ismael Valdez struggled when he tried to go an extra inning. Valdez allowed two runs over the first four innings before giving up four in the fifth. Brandon Backe gave up two runs and three hits in five innings to earn the win.

Nationals 9, Dodgers (5) 3: At Vero Beach, Fla., Livan Hernandez threw six scoreless innings and Gary Bennett hit a grand slam in the eighth.

Prates 5, Red Sox 3: At Bradenton, Fla., Oliver Perez, slowed earlier in camp by shoulder stiffness, lasted four innings in his second spring training start, then was told he would start Pittsburgh's April 4 opener against Milwaukee.

Tigers (5), Cardinals (5) 4: At Lakeland, Fla., starting pitchers Chris Carpenter and Jason Johnson struggled. Rick Ankiel, the former pitcher who switched to the outfield earlier this spring, was 0-for-3 with two strikeouts as the Cardinals' DH. Carlos Guillen, the Tigers' All-Star shortstop, and second baseman Omar Infante both played defense for the first time this spring.

Mariners 7, Diamondbacks (7) 7: At Tucson, Ariz., Javier Vazquez retired the first 16 batters for Arizona and Greg Dobbs hit a grand slam for Seattle.

Brewers 8, Rangers 5: At Phoenix, Ben Sheets allowed three runs in three innings for Milwaukee during his third outing of the spring. Texas starter Ricardo Rodriguez boosted his bid for the No. 5 spot in the rotation by throwing five scoreless innings.

Padres 9, Cubs 5: At Peoria, Ariz., Brian Giles and Mark Loretta each hit a three-run homer and Khalil Greene added a solo shot for San Diego. Nomar Garciaparra had two home runs, but committed three of the Cubs four errors.

Padres (5), Diamondbacks (5) 9: At Yuma, Ariz., Brett Bonvecchio keyed a seven-run, six-inning win with a three-run homer for San Diego and second baseman Jesse Garcia went 4-for-6 with two singles, a double and a triple.

Athletics 17, Giants 3: At Phoenix, Barry Zito gave up four hits and a run over six innings, and Eric Chavez and Bobby Kielty each hit three-run homers and Erubiel Durazo had a two-run shot off Johan Schmidt, who gave up 10 runs and nine hits in 3 1/3 innings.

Rockies, 6, Royals 3: At Surprise, Ariz., Jeff Jennings struck out six in five innings and Dustan Mohr and Brad Hawpe each homered in a four-run fifth for Colorado. Kansas City right-hander Mike Wood retired all 12 batters he faced and struck out four, including the side in the first inning.

Angels 4, White Sox 3: At Tempe, Ariz., Casey Kotchman had an RBI double and Robb Quinlan hit a go-ahead two-run single for Los Angeles. Brandon McCarthy worked five innings and struck out four.

doors, of course. Never has New York had a bigger chance at snaring the host's role.

The city will make a presentation to all 32 owners either Monday or Tuesday for conditional approval of the 2010 Super Bowl in New York.

The Jets submitted the resolution, contingent on the West Side stadium being built and ready for the 2010 Super Bowl," league spokesman Greg Aiello said.

Among the obstacles to getting approval could be the fact the team won't play in the stadium until the 2009 season. NFL rules require a stadium to have been in use for two years before it hosts a Super Bowl, something Houston complied with in 2004 and Detroit will have done so next year.

The Jets would not have done so. Former mayor Rudolph Giuliani expressed his support for the stadium project over the weekend, the Jets are facing

strong opposition from community groups and the owners of Madison Square Garden, who also are bidding for the land on which the stadium would be built.

Without the stadium, New York also won't have a chance of hosting the 2012 Olympics.

The Jets have committed \$800 million for the stadium project, with the city and state required to raise the rest of what is planned to be a \$1.5 billion total. Critics say it will be substantially higher.

Also on the agenda this week will be an update to the owners by Tagliabue on the prime-time television contract that expires after the 2005 season. CBS and Fox have renewed their AFC and NFC contracts for a combined \$8 billion over six years. But ABC and ESPN are still haggling over the prime-time packages, and several other networks publicly have stated an interest in being involved if ABC/ESPN drop out.

Owners also will look at several player safety issues and discuss a possible alteration to pass interlocking safety strategies.

Tagliabue will broach the collective bargaining agreement negotiations in his State of the NFL speech. There has been some movement in talks with the NFL Players Association to extend the contract that expires in 2008. The key issue is expanding the pool for the salary cap — and thus the pool from which the players get their money — to include additional revenue sources teams previously have kept for themselves.

An agreement in principle to expand the pool has been reached, but the main unresolved point is what percentage will go to the players.

"When it comes down to it, it's still about money," said Harold Henderson, the NFL's executive vice president for labor relations. "There's still quite a way to go on that."

M.B., union drop fines for steroids

By RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — After listening to criticism from Congress, baseball players and owners agreed to drop the possibility of fines for steroid use and leave suspensions as the only discipline.

Members of Congress repeatedly pummeled baseball officials for the fine possibility during Thursday's hearing before the House Government Reform Committee. Management told the committee it was willing to eliminate the fine provision, held over from baseball's first drug-testing agreement in 2002, but union head Donald Fehr said he would have to consider such players.

"We do have an agreement with Don that the language after the disjunctive in the various disciplinary reviews going to be eliminated," Rob Manfred, baseball's executive vice president for labor relations, said Sunday. "It will be just the straight suspension, which everybody knew was going to happen anyway. To the degree there was any doubt, I think this change should put to rest any concerns in the region."

Players and owners announced the agreement Jan. 13, but it hasn't been finalized.

"The agreement still has to be reached, but the negotiators have agreed to modify that language," said Michael Weiner, the union's general counsel.

Commissioner Bud Selig repeatedly said during the hearing that his intent was to suspend players for all positive tests.

"We're glad the policy is now closer to what it was purposed to be," David Marin, spokesman for committee chairman Tom Davis, said in an e-mail to The Associated Press. "If our inquiry achieves nothing more than getting baseball to give its policy the teeth it said it had, we will have done some real good."

Baseball's new agreement had called for a 10-day suspension or up to \$10,000 fine for a first positive test. A second positive was to result in a 30-day suspension or up to \$25,000 fine, a third in a 60-day suspension or up to \$50,000 fine and a fourth in a one-year suspension or up to \$100,000 fine.

After that, discipline is determined by the commissioner.

Now, its suspensions only. Earlier Sunday, Sen. John McCain said he thought legislation may be needed to force a tougher plan.

"It just seems to me they can't be trusted," the Arizona Republican told ABC's "This Week" on Sunday. "It seems to me that we ought to seriously consider ... a suspension of all overseas team sports have a minimum level of performance-enhancing drug testing."

Davis said on CBS' "Face the Nation" that he agreed with McCain's suggestion that the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency could be called in to govern baseball's testing. He also said he was considering testing and discipline for U.S. Olympic athletes.

N.Y. in line for 2010 Super Bowl — maybe

By BARRY WILNER

The Associated Press

KAPALUA, Hawaii — The 2010 Super Bowl could be approved for New York during the NFL owners meetings this week.

Several team owners said Sunday they would look favorably on placing the championship game in New York for the first time. But it's still a big uncertainty because the city would need to have an indoor stadium.

Considering what a political football the project for Manhattan's West Side has become, construction of such a home for the Jets is very problematic.

Commissioner Paul Tagliabue supports staging a Super Bowl in New York and the NFL's Super Bowl committee unanimously agreed. The league will hold its third cold-weather Super Bowl next February in Detroit — in-

Singh gets No. 1 rank but Perry gets trophy

BY DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Vijay Singh didn't get to No. 1 in the world by playing it safe.

Having made up a three-shot deficit in three holes, he stood in the middle of the 18th fairway in the Bay Hill Invitational tied for the lead with Kenny Perry, with 174 yards and a big pond separating him from the flag.

"I was trying to win the golf tournament," Singh said.

He had to settle for a return to No. 1. The trophy went to Perry, who survived a stunning charge Sunday.



Singh

and watched in disbelief as Singh's 7-iron that looked perfect all the way landed in a cluster of rocks and bounced into the water.

"I was shocked," Perry said. "Thank goodness I had to hit last."

He was going at the stick... and it looked like it was just going to fly right next to the hole. That was a huge break for me." Perry played it safe, hitting to the middle of the green and lagging his 70-foot putt down to tap-in range for a 2-under 70 to give him a two-shot victory over Singh and Graeme McDowell.

"I thank Vijay for giving me that momentum," Perry said. "That was kind of a nice way to win one, knowing I could play left [of the water] and three-putt to win the golf tournament."

He wasn't a complete charity case. Perry was accurate off the tee, and occasionally longer than Singh.

Perry finished at 12-under 276 and won for the eighth time in his career; this one worth \$900,000.

Singh replaced Tiger Woods at No. 1, which was not nearly as dramatic as the conclusion of the tournament. All the 42-year-old Fijian had to do was finish fourth because Woods was chopping his way around Bay Hill and finished out of the top 20 for the second straight year.

But while Singh once obsessed about being No. 1, he now cares only about winning.

After and his second runner-up finish in two weeks, the news that he was back on top in the world ranking was small consolation.

"Big deal," Singh said after closing with a 69. "I lost the tournament."



MACON TELEGRAPH/RYT

Carl Edwards takes a celebratory backflip off his car after winning the Golden Corral 500 on Sunday at the Atlanta Motor Speedway in Hampton, Ga. Edwards, who is running a full schedule in Nextel Cup and Busch Series this season, won both series' races at the track over the weekend.

Edwards completes Atlanta sweep

Driver becomes first to win first Nextel, Busch races in same weekend

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

The Associated Press

HAMPTON, Ga. — Carl Edwards had quite a weekend.

Two races. Two victories. Two backflips.

NASCAR's newest star pulled off an unprecedented sweep at Atlanta Motor Speedway, racing to his first Nextel Cup victory Sunday — a day after he won his first Busch Series race.

Edwards pulled off a daring move on Jimmie Johnson coming off the final turn and beat him to the line by about half a car length to win the Golden Corral 500.

"We're on a mission," the 25-year-old Missouri driver said. "We're here to win races."

Edwards became the first driver to capture his first victory in NASCAR's top two series on the same weekend.

Get used to it. He's an immensely talented driver who honed his skills on the dirt tracks of the Midwest. Johnson noticed the potential when Edwards moved up to the Cup series for the final 13 races last season.

"You can see his intensity, his car control," Johnson said. "This guy is our next superstar."

He's also quite a showman. After both victories, Edwards climbed out of his car in front of the main grandstand, balanced himself on the window ledge and did a backflip onto the asphalt.

"It would be a shame not to enjoy it a little bit," he said. "I'm just trying to have a good time."

Johnson, going for his second win in a row, grabbed the lead from Edwards with 25 laps left and appeared to be strong enough to hold it all the way to the finish.

But, on the final lap, Edwards

got a great run coming out of Turn 2 and pulled up on Johnson's back bumper. Johnson went high coming through Turns 3 and 4, trying to block his challenger, but Edwards went even higher.

Edwards hugged the wall and traded paint with Johnson's car as they roared through the trioval. Johnson bobbled slightly just a few feet from the finish, and Edwards slipped by on the outside to win by a minuscule 0.028 seconds.

It was another head-to-head duel between Roush Racing (Edwards) and Hendrick Motorsports (Johnson). The two powerful teams have split the first four races this season, and their drivers occupy the top five spots in the point standings.

After racing trucks most of last year, Edwards is running a full

schedule in the Cup and Busch series, trying to gain as much experience as possible. Clearly, he's a quick learner.

Greg Biffle held on for third, followed by Mark Martin and Kasey Kahne.

Johnson led a race-high 156 laps, followed by Biffle with 151.

Edwards was out front for only nine laps, but ran strongly all day. At least Johnson shook off the embarrassment of being docked 25 points and losing his series lead because his Chevrolet failed inspection after winning last week's race at Las Vegas.

"We were thinking about Victory Lane and being able to smile over our critics and everyone who thought we were doing something goofy last weekend," Johnson said. "We're going to prove what this team is capable of and change the impression some people may have of the team."

Sorenstam goes to playoff to win fourth straight

The Associated Press

SUPERSITION MOUNTAIN, Ariz. — Annika Sorenstam won her fourth straight LPGA Tour start, making up four strokes in the last three holes and then beating Lorena Ochoa on the first hole of a playoff in the Safeway International on Sunday.

Sorenstam's victory — the 58th of her LPGA Tour career — was her second in as many events since her year and sixth in her last eight

tournaments. Sorenstam finished with a 2-under-par 70 to match Ochoa (74) at 11-under 277.

Sorenstam, the four-time LPGA player of the year and scoring record-setter, won her season debut in Mexico City two weeks ago, dashing the 23-year-old Ochoa's dream of a victory in her native land.

Sorenstam, the defending champion, was 18 under last year. This year's \$210,000 first prize boosted her to \$390,000 on the money list and sent her LPGA record career total past \$16 million.

Johnson wins Toshiba Senior
NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — Former California amateur star Mark Johnson won in just his 14th start on the Champions Tour, shooting a 1-under 70 for a

four-stroke victory in the Toshiba Senior Classic.

The 50-year-old Johnson, the qualifying tournament winner known as the "Beer Man" because he drove a Budweiser truck for 18 years before turning pro, had a 13-under 200 total on the Newport Beach Country Club course.

Keith Fergus (71) and Wayne Levi (70) tied for second at 9 under.



SPORTS



League to consider proposal that would place 2010 Super Bowl in New York, Page 33

A fine first weekend

Underdogs bring typical excitement to NCAA tournament

And so, after four bleary-eyed days and nights locked in inert stupor in front of the TV, the area below our waist having permanently melded with the recliner, we pause long enough to attempt to arise, however unsteadily, and shake free from the detritus of cellophane wrappers, crumpled soda cans and crumbs of foodstuffs utterly lacking in nutritional value, all the litter and leftover that has piled up during the first week of the Fine Madness.

The pause is welcome, for even the most rabid hoop-head needs the occasional oil change and tube job.

Bill Lyon



Besides, the Fine Madness will return in a few days. Not a long enough delay for withdrawal pangs to set in.

Sixteen left now. Just 16. The other 49 thrown out with the trash, uncereemoniously, without sympathy. They know how it works — everyone gets one chance, and only one. No exception. No exemption.

"The finality of it," said Oklahoma coach, Kelvin Sampson, sighing. "You have to play good, or else . . . the finality of it."

His team was a No. 3 seed. It didn't play good enough. The consequence was the ultimate finality. The Sooners were dismissed by Utah. The Sooners have lots of marquee company on the ride back home.

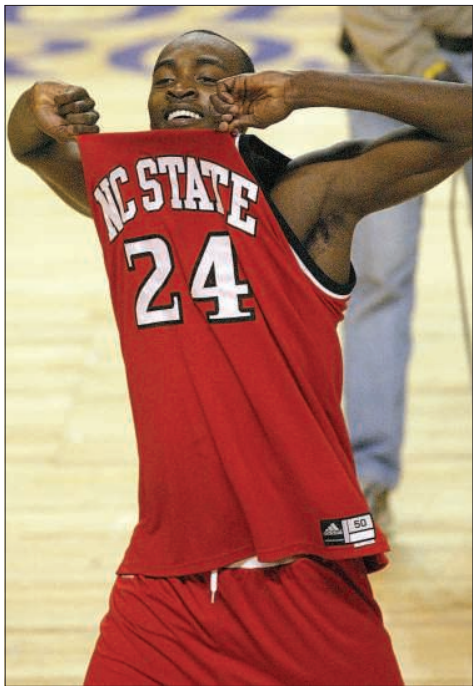
Two No. 2 seeds were bounced — Wake Forest and UConn. Three No. 3 seeds didn't make it through the first week — Gonzaga and Kansas joining Oklahoma. And three No. 4 seeds never got to the next level — Syracuse, Boston College and Florida.

Quite an impressive body count. Of the top 16 seeds, half were eliminated. At first blush, it seems more than the usual quota.

But then it always seems that way, doesn't it? Because every spring, without fail, early rocks are thrown into the office pool, and the ripples of consequence spread far and wide. Your early-round picks should always include an underdog or three, the trick, of course, is picking the right one.

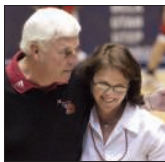
Upsets are the appealing staple of the Fine Madness. That, after all, is the enduring charm of it, that the only certainty is the uncertainty. This is the one event in which it is guaranteed that some of the Big Boys are going to come crashing down, and sooner rather than later. No Sweet 16 has ever included all four No. 1 through No. 4 seeds. Never. And won't ever, either.

SEE FINE ON PAGE 30



CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/KRT

N.C. State's Julius Hodge converted a three-point play with 4.3 seconds remaining to lift the Wolfpack to a 65-62 victory over defending national champion Connecticut on Sunday.



AP

Texas Tech coach Bob Knight, left, had his wife Karen brought down from the stands to the court after his team upset Gonzaga in the second round so he could publicly recognize her for her contributions to the team.



AP

Rob Thomas (2) and the Bucknell Bison fell to Wisconsin in the second round Sunday night after upsetting Kansas in the first round Friday night. Bucknell became the first team in the Patriot League to win a game in the NCAA tournament.

More NCAA coverage inside:

Krzyzewski collects record 66th victory in men's tourney

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Lady Vols' Summitt ties Smith for most career NCAA victories

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Pat Summitt

Edwards jumping for joy after sweeping weekend Busch Series, Nextel Cup races at Atlanta

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LeBron becomes youngest player in NBA history to score 50, but Cavs lose ninth of last 12

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Cavaliers try to stop slide down playoff standings by firing Silas

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